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THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2254.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1871.

PRICE
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INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1871.—

All Objects intended for Exhibition must be delivered at the Exhibition Buildings on the days named below, viz.:

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| Machinery | February 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th. |
| Scientific Instruments | 5th, 7th. |
| Educational Works and Appliances | 8th, 9th. |
| Pottery and Raw Materials | 10th, 11th. |
| Woolen and Worsted Fabrics, and Raw Materials | 12th, 14th. |
| Sculpture not applied to works of utility | 15th, 16th. |
| Painting applied to works of utility | 17th, 18th. |
| Engraving, Lithography, and Photography, &c. | 19th, 20th. |
| Architectural Designs, Drawings, and Models | 21st. |
| Tapestries, Carpets, Embroideries, &c. | 22nd. |
| Designs for all kinds of Decorative Manufactures | 23rd. |
| Copies of Pictures, Monies, Enamels, &c. | 24th. |
| Painting not applied to works of utility | 25th. |
| | 27th, 28th. |

Office of Her Majesty's Commissioners, Upper Kensington Gore, London, W.

EDUCATIONAL LECTURES.—LONDON

INSTITUTION, Finsbury Circus.—On MONDAY, January 23, at 4 p.m., Professor HUXLEY, LL.D. F.R.S., will commence a course of six lectures on the FIRST PRINCIPLES OF BIOLOGY, to be continued on the five succeeding Mondays, at the same hour. Fee for the course, 5s.; number of tickets limited. On TUESDAY, January 24, at 10 a.m., an EXAMINATION in CHEMISTRY, for Prizes and Certificates, will be held in the Library of the Institution. This Examination is open to Students under the age of Eighteen, who attended Dr. ODING'S Course "On CHEMICAL ACTION." Names of Candidates should be forwarded to the Principal Librarian without delay. By order, THOMAS PIPER, Hon. Sec.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S HOSPITAL AND COLLEGE.—CLASSES for the UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

A CLASS for the Preliminary Scientific Examination will be held from January to July, and will include all the subjects required, as follows:—Chemistry.—H. E. Armstrong, Ph.D. Botany.—The Rev. G. Henslow, M.A. Cantab., Lecturer on Botany to the Hospital. Zoology and Comparative Anatomy.—W. S. Church, M.D. Oxon., Lecturer on Comparative Anatomy to the Hospital, late Lee's Reader in Anatomy at Christ Church, Oxford. Mechanical and Natural Philosophy.—F. J. Hensley, M.D. Cantab., Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge, Tutor to the Hospital. Fee to Students of the Hospital, Six Guineas; to others, Ten Guineas. Fee for any single subject, Three Guineas. To commence on Monday, January 9th.

FIRST M.B. EXAMINATION. Special Classes in the subjects required for this Examination will be held by the Lecturers on those subjects. Fee, Five Guineas. The next MATRICULATION CLASS will begin in March. For particulars apply personally or by letter to the RESIDENT WARDEN of the College.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—PROFESSOR MARKS

will begin a Course of Twelve Lectures on the POST-BIBLICAL LITERATURE of the JEWS, on THURSDAY, January 12, 1871, at 8 p.m. The subsequent Lectures will be delivered on the succeeding Thursday Evenings at the same hour. Fee for the Course, 12s.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. HISTORY OF PHILOSOPHY.

Professor CROOM ROBERTSON will deliver a Course of about Twelve Lectures on the History of Modern Philosophy, chiefly ENGLISH, on MONDAY EVENINGS, beginning on January 9th, at 7.30. Fee, 12s. 6d.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. ANGLO-SAXON.

Professor MORLEY will read "ÆDMON" with the Anglo-Saxon Class at 9 a.m. on TUESDAYS, during the Lent and Summer Terms, beginning on the 17th of January. Fee, 12s. 6d.

JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON. SCHOOL.

Head Master—T. HEWITT KEY, M.A. F.R.S. Vice-Master—E. R. HORTON, M.A., Fellow of St. Peter's College, Cambridge. The LENT TERM will BEGIN for New Pupils on TUESDAY, January 17th, at 9.30 a.m. The School is close to the Gower-street Station of the Metropolitan Railway, and only a few minutes' walk from the termini of several other Railways.

Prospectuses, containing full information respecting the Courses of Instruction given in the School, Fees, and other particulars, may be obtained at the Office of the College. JOHN ROBSON, B.A., Secretary to the Council.

Jan. 2nd, 1871.

SOCIETY of HEBREW LITERATURE CLASSES.

The Committee beg to announce that Dr. ABRAHAM BENISCH has consented to give a series of Expositions in connexion with this Society. The Books selected are, for Course I., the "Book of Knowledge," by Maimonides (7777777777). For Course II., the book of Isaiah, with the Commentary of Rabbi David Kimchi (7777777777). Each Class will be held once a week, to commence in January, 1871. The Classes are open to all Members of the Society, and others above the age of 16 are admissible on the recommendation of one of the Committee. It is requested that all communications be addressed to the Hon. Sec., Israel Davis, Esq., 11, The Avenue, Blackheath, S.E., who will be happy to answer every inquiry. Application should be made not later than January 9, 1871.

J. G. GREENWOOD, Principal.

J. HOLME NICHOLSON, Registrar.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—The

FOURTH MEETING of the present Session will be held (by permission of the Chancellor and Senate) in the Hall of the University of London, Burlington Gardens, on MONDAY, the 9th of January, Major-General Sir H. C. Rawlinson, K.C.B., Vice-President, in the chair. Subject, "The Gibraltar Current, the Gulf Stream, and the General Oceanic Circulation," by Dr. W. B. Carpenter, F.R.S.

ROYAL HIBERNIAN ACADEMY.

The EXHIBITION for the Year 1871 will OPEN on the 9th of MARCH. Artists in England and Scotland (to whom the Academy's Circular is sent), are informed that Messrs. Green & Co., 14, Charles-street, Middlesex Hospital, London; Messrs. Doig, M'Kechie & Davis, 89, George-street, Edinburgh; and Messrs. Fisher, 5, West Nile-street, Glasgow, will forward Works delivered to them before the 1st of Feb. By order,

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HYDE PARK COLLEGE FOR LADIES,

115, GLOUCESTER-TERRACE, Hyde Park. The JUNIOR HALF TERM begins January 9th. The SENIOR TERM, January 25th. Prospectuses, containing Terms, &c., may be had on application to the Lady Resident.

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The Courses of LECTURES to LADIES, by Professors of University College, on English (Language and Literature), French (Language and Literature), Experimental Physics, and Logic, will begin on and after MONDAY, Jan. 16th. Prospectuses, Class Tickets, and Free Tickets for the First Lecture of each Course, to be had of the Hon. Sec., J. E. MYLSE, Esq., 27, Oxford-square, Hyde Park, W.

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LADIES' COLLEGE, THE WOODLANDS, UNION-

road, CLAPHAM-RISE. The PUPILS will RE-ASSEMBLE on MONDAY, January 16th.—The LECTURES on Chemistry, Physiology, History, &c. will commence the following Week.

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The Misses PHIPSON and Miss HILL inform their Friends that their SCHOOL TERMS for 1871 will be as follows:—First Term, from Friday, Jan. 20th, to Tuesday, April 18th. Second .. Friday, May 5th, to Friday, July 28th. Third .. Tuesday, Sept. 19th, to Tuesday, Dec. 19th.

THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE.

Principal—Dr. L. SCHMITZ, Ph.D. LL.D. F.R.S.E., late Rector of the High School of Edinburgh. The NEW TERM commences on WEDNESDAY, the 18th of January, 1871, when the Pupils Re-assemble at the College. Applications for Admission should be addressed to the PRINCIPAL; or the Secretary of the International Education Society (Limited), at the College, Spring-grove, Middlesex.

MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE.—The Council

give notice that the post of HEAD MASTER to the College is VACANT. Candidates are requested to send in their Names and Testimonials to the Bursar at Marlborough College on or before the 7th of JANUARY, 1871, from whom particulars as to Salary, &c. can be obtained. The Council will meet for the Election of the Head Master on MONDAY, January 16th.

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EDUCATION.—CROOM'S HILL SCHOOL,

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HOLLY HILL, HAMPSTEAD.—The SCHOOL,

which has lately been conducted by Mrs. LALOR and Miss BANKS, will be carried on by Miss NORBON, assisted by Mrs. HEISE, and will be RE-OPENED on January 31st.—Prospectuses, with references, on application.

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lating it with the valuable interleaved copy in their possession,
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from this source have obtained several annotations of consi-
derable interest, not hitherto published. There have also been
inserted (within brackets) some minor notes, explanatory of
references now rendered perhaps somewhat obscure by the
lapse of time; and for which they are chiefly indebted to Mr.
David Laing, Secretary of the Bannatyne Club, and one of the
few surviving friends of the Author.

Edinburgh: ADAM & CHARLES BLACK.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 1871.

LITERATURE

SIR WALTER SCOTT.

The Complete Works of Sir W. Scott. (Edinburgh, Black.)*The Waverley Novels, "Centenary Edition."* (Same Publisher.)

"Tis sixty years since" the author of 'Waverley' took the first step towards realizing the dream of his life by becoming a landed proprietor. In 1811 he bought the first instalment of Abbotsford. This fact may properly be placed at the head of an article on Sir Walter Scott, since it is well known that all his literary fame and all the pleasure which he derived from literature were as nothing in his eyes compared with the position of a Scotch country gentleman and a kinsman of the Bold Buccleuch. It is clear from the language of Mr. Lockhart that he lived in two worlds in a more literal sense than is commonly attached to that expression: and that underneath the law and the literature, the field sports and the woodcraft in which he was apparently absorbed, lay another existence, unsuspected by the world at large, which he passed in company with the creatures of his own imagination, among the scenes and events of past ages, under the shadow

of great old houses
And fights fought long ago,

with which he sympathized so completely that it might almost at times have seemed doubtful to him which was the reality and which the illusion. There can hardly be a question but that when he described the habits of Edward Waverley he was thinking of his own. The beautiful passage at the conclusion of the fourth chapter, in which the hero's propensity to brood over the old family legends all they gradually became instinct with life, and Crusader and Cavalier started from their long sleep, to re-enact their parts before his eyes, must have been a reflex of the mental habit to which we owe Hugo de Lacy, Albert Lee, Peveril of the Peak, Lord Evandale, Tressilian, and a host of others, which make the "Waverley Novels" like an historical picture gallery.

This habit of mind told upon Scott in two ways. The artificial world in which he lived, though it could supply him with everything necessary to the conduct of a romantic drama, was inevitably deficient in studies of character; and accordingly we find that what may be termed the psychological element of the novels is their weakest point. But if to this extent Scott's life among the dead was a hindrance to him, the loss was far more than atoned for by the simplicity which it imparted to his writings. By simplicity we do not mean that healthiness and purity of tone which play over them like a sea-breeze, and have always been appreciated; but a total absence of self-consciousness, of straining at effect, of a syllable which would seem to insinuate that the author was above his readers, or imagined himself to be engaged in anything very wonderful or splendid. The strength of his belief in what he undertook to paint made him paint it with exquisite fidelity. His indifference to the literary result saved him from errors which are usually the fruits of vanity. The Waverley Novels remind one

more of a sensible, well-bred gentleman detailing the scenes of his youth to a few chosen friends after dinner, than of the professed *littérateur*, with himself and the public before his eyes. In no other writer of fiction with whom we are acquainted is the author so completely sunk in the man, as it is in Sir Walter Scott, and though, were this the result of affectation, nothing could be more offensive, where it is perfectly natural and undesigned nothing can be more delightful. Those who look on Walter Scott as a man wrapped up in his literary successes and gloating over his great secret will never understand his books. We are not sure that his literary character was regarded even by himself with unmixed satisfaction. But most assuredly he considered it as wholly subordinate to his position as a Scotch Laird, which he made himself by the purchase of Abbotsford.

It will be a hundred years ago next August since this wonderful man was born into the world to exercise an influence literary, social, and political not inferior in the aggregate to that of Shakspeare. Shakspeare's influence was almost exclusively literary, and in this of course he was even to Sir Walter Scott as the sun is to the moon. But Scott's influence in another sphere was greater than Shakspeare's by as much as Shakspeare's in that sphere was greater than his: and the hundredth anniversary of his birthday well deserves the honour with which it is proposed to celebrate it. Our own contribution to the stream of homage shall be in the shape of a bird's-eye view of the new world which he discovered, and the commemoration of one or two features in the landscape which, though not unknown to criticism, have scarcely, in our judgment, received adequate consideration.

We have said that in the Waverley Novels the psychological element is the weakest point, and of this defect nobody was more conscious than the author. But he knew how wretched was the result when this kind of writing was attempted in the absence of peculiar talents for it, and he wisely abstained from a field in which he recognized living superiors. He says of 'Granby,' "It is well written but overlaboured—too much attempt to put the reader exactly up to the thoughts and sentiments of the parties. The women do this better"—citing Misses Edgeworth, Ferrier, and Austen; and again of Miss Austen in particular, "That young lady had a talent for describing the involvements and feelings and characters of ordinary life which is to me the most wonderful I ever met with. The big bow-wow strain I can do myself, like any now going; but the exquisite touch which renders ordinary commonplace things and characters interesting from the truth of the description and the sentiment, is denied to me." It is by no means improbable that the publication of 'Sense and Sensibility,' in 1811, 'Pride and Prejudice,' in 1813, and 'Mansfield Park,' in 1814, may have had a great effect upon the character of the Waverley Novels, and have determined Scott to avoid all rivalry with the mistress of that "exquisite touch" which he felt that Nature had denied to him. And we are the more confirmed in this conjecture because in 'Waverley,' the only one of his novels which was written before the appearance of Miss Austen, there is evidence that Scott was not yet fully aware of his own comparative weak-

ness, and that in the character of Waverley he was attempting to do what he afterwards reprobated, namely, "to put the reader exactly up to the thoughts and sentiments of the parties." Miss Austen showed him how much better she could do it; and henceforth he seems to have abandoned, if he ever entertained, the idea of making the delineation of human nature for its own sake, unaccompanied by circumstances of a striking or uncommon character, the subject of his labours. Yet, after all, Scott's weakness even in this respect would have been the strength of an inferior artist; for the character of Colonel Manners, which is his nearest approach to Miss Austen, shows that Nature had been less unkind to him than he supposed. But there is no reason to believe that he laboured at this character for its own sake, as there is some reason to believe he had laboured at Waverley, or beheld in its development the main object of his work. Even in Waverley he must have felt how quickly the idea with which he started was swept away and forgotten in the rush and roar of the great romance which followed. But whatever the mixture of motives by which he was actuated, the great fact that "the women do this better" was probably among those which deterred him from seeking popularity as a novelist of character. Had he lived till the present day, he could have had only the more reason to think as he did upon the subject; and would have recognized another specimen of feminine superiority not unequal to his favourite, in the authoress of 'Adam Bede.'

But though he did not excel in the exhibition of those delicate and nameless traits by which commonplace characters are distinguished from each other, while to all but the eye of genius there seems no more difference between them than between the sheep in a flock which only the shepherd knows apart, he has few superiors in the portraiture of either types of character, generic traits, that is, which distinguish a whole class, or of individual peculiarities where these are strongly marked. His gentlemen and ladies, his soldiers and barons, his lawyers, farmers and humourists, his beggars and his butlers, his villains and his witches, are all perfect of their kind. And perhaps we may be doing some service to the rising generation by exhibiting one or two examples of this in some detail.

Were we to search literature for the complete embodiment of all those qualities which constitute our idea of a gentleman, where could we find anything superior to Lord Evandale in 'Old Mortality,' to Damian Lacy in 'The Betrothed,' to Tressilian in 'Kenilworth,' and last, but not least, to that most interesting of all his heroes the Master of Ravenswood? For a gentleman, be it remembered, is no more a perfect moral character than anybody else. Certain great and good qualities he must possess: but these may, or may not, be mingled with others which are weak or bad. But the two first upon our list seem almost faultless. We do not envy the man who can read without rising of the throat, either the death of Lord Evandale, or the interview between Damian and his uncle in the Castle prison. In each case, however, we see but the consummation of what everything in their lives had been pointing to—self-sacrifice, generosity, fidelity, fearlessness, tenderness. Bright and gay and gallant, they were earnest and devoted, pure and constant.

In them strength of character was not hardened to severity, as in Ravenswood, nor was gentleness allied to weakness, as in Tressilian. Knights and gentlemen *sans peur et sans reproche*, it were well if they were better known than we fear they are to the youth of England. Tressilian too easily allowed himself to be crushed by the blow which fell upon him. But a man may be a gentleman without being a hero. Ravenswood's noble nature was prematurely warped by adversity, as a man's physical beauty may be tarnished by exposure to rough weather. But a man may be a gentleman without being a saint. And such was the character of Ravenswood, perched like an eagle on his solitary crag, to swoop down with desolation in his wings upon the plains below.

If, secondly, we turn to Scott's young ladies, where shall we find among the heroines of modern fiction one equal to Alice Bridgnorth, or Alice Lee, or Catharine Seyton, or Diana Vernon? Innocence and fun, love and duty, passionate yearnings and patient self-control, are the characteristics more or less of them all. It has long been clear to us that the demure Miss Lee was far from adverse to a flirtation with Louis Kerneguy, though too proud to accept a lover in Charles Stuart. She was no prude,—most likely found Woodstock very dull,—and the Page was a godsend. It is in drawing girls of snow-white modesty and delicacy, without imparting to the character the faintest tinge of prudery or "slowness," that Scott is peculiarly successful. Catharine Seyton and Diana Vernon speak for themselves. What a kiss that must have been, worth a king's ransom, which Catharine gave Roland at parting, on that sorrowful May morning, when she stood with her royal mistress on the shores of the Solway Firth, and looked her last on Scotland for many a long day! But, after all, we think the Queenship of his heroines must be allowed to lie between Die Vernon and Alice Bridgnorth. They both show with how much common sense, self-control, and sense of duty, the most ardent passion is consistent, and represent, we should think, with exact fidelity, Scott's ideal of womanhood. The scene between Julian Peveril and Alice in the Isle of Man, where he tries to persuade her to elope with him, is one of the finest which Scott ever drew. The vain struggle of the girl to disguise her love: the half-consent which, for a single moment, it extorts from her: with the sudden recovery of her self-command and the re-assertion of her pride: show indeed an "exquisite touch," which Miss Austen herself might have envied. Many of Scott's heroines are colourless, like Isabella Wardour, Rowena, Mary Avenel; others are merely soft, warm, lovable pets, like Rose Bradwardine, Lucy Bertram, Lucy Ashton, and we might add, perhaps, Amy Robsart: but all are thorough ladies: all are girls whose natures would have recoiled with a shiver from the modern idea of "fastness." We do not know whether we ought to make an exception in the case of Julia Mannering, in whom at times there is something bordering on pertness: but we feel that the remark is hypercritical. Scott's young ladies then as a class are simply well-bred unaffected English girls, with nothing of the Goody Two-Shoes about them: high-spirited and high-principled, capable of warm and lasting attachments, but wholly free from maudlin sentimentalism. Scott evidently laid great

stress on the virtue of constancy. The length of time which his lovers are obliged to wait is a feature in his novels. Alice Bridgnorth must have waited several years; Alice Lee from the outbreak of the Civil War till after the Battle of Worcester,—some seven or eight years; Catharine Seyton nearly as long; while Edith Belenden nursed a seemingly hopeless passion near a dozen years before she met with her reward. At least her attachment to Morton began before the Battle of Bothwell Brigg, and she was not married till after the Battle of Killlicrankie.

We have dwelt at some length on these points because an impression is abroad that in characters of the above class Scott is apt to be insipid. This opinion must have been propagated in the first instance by persons of defective sympathy, and accepted by the public without reflection. His heroines, with one or two exceptions, are not indeed the kind of girls who take one by storm; still less are they powdered, painted, and bewigged, in the style complained of by the "French Lady" in the *Times*. But they grow on us by degrees, like their prototypes in real life; both their characters and their persons being full of a quiet beauty, which, like that of Hero,

Sweetly creeps
Into our study of imagination,

and retains possession of the field against all comers.

The supreme merit of Scott's humorous characters has been so universally admitted that little now remains to be said about them. We do not know, however, whether it has been noticed that in Scott we have no exaggeration either in the way of grotesqueness like Smollett, or caricature like Dickens; for as a humourist he is to be classed rather with these two than with Thackeray and Fielding. But the odd characters whom Scott introduces to our notice are peculiarly easy and natural; and in the portraiture of these he displays quite as much delicacy of touch as the ladies to whom he thought himself inferior. Commodore Truncheon and Sam Weller would have seemed strange to every one who knew them. But not so Jonathan Oldbuck, or Nicol Jarvie, or Dugald Dalgetty, or even the Baron of Bradwardine. Just as we see individuals in real life whose sayings and doings teem with an unconscious humour which many people neither see, nor seeing would appreciate; so we imagine that to his ordinary acquaintances Oldbuck was only the caustic scholar, Nicol Jarvie the shrewd, conceited old trader, and Dugald Dalgetty the pedantic mercenary; that is, comparatively commonplace personages. Scott has done for them what Miss Austen and Miss Evans have done for characters still more commonplace—brought their humours to light for our delectation, and kept each idiosyncrasy distinct with the rarest power of discrimination. We doubt if there is anything to be found out of Shakespeare equal to the dialogue in 'The Antiquary'; especially in the scenes between Oldbuck and Dousterswivel, Miss Grizzel and Hector M'Intyre.

A class of characters in which Scott has not been equally successful are his villains. The best of them, no doubt, is Glossin, for we are not including men like Balfour of Burley or Dirk Hatteraick in the list. The scheming, intriguing, Iago style of villain is what we mean, such as Glossin, Rashleigh Osbaldistone,

Richard Varney and Christian. Glossin is drawn with boldness and freedom; and we have no fault to find with him, except that we have never been quite able to understand the full extent of the wrong which he did to Ellangowan. But Rashleigh and Varney are too much laboured, and while the latter shows no originality, the former is made too little of. Scott seems to have begun by meaning him to be much more prominent. But Frank could have been got into the Highlands without such a roundabout device as Rashleigh's embezzlement; and his villany towards Miss Vernon is no part of the story. Frank somewhere boasts that he had rescued Miss Vernon from his toils; but he had done nothing of the kind—she had rescued herself long before he set eyes upon her. On the whole, then, Rashleigh plays no part in the plot at all commensurate with the importance assigned to him at the outset. Nor can we think of any other novel besides 'Guy Mannering' in which he has succeeded better. He is thought to have failed even more in his fops and *petits-maitres*, such as Buckingham, Dalgarno, Sir Percy Shafton, Lord Etherington, and others. We hardly know why. But even if he has, there are so few of them in his novels that they form no serious detractor from the merit of the whole.

Scott's treatment of historical personages cannot well be separated from his treatment of history; and it will probably be a long time before the controversies which this has provoked are consigned to obscurity. Our own opinion is, that Sir Walter's reputation will gain instead of losing by the continuance of it; and that people will eventually be taught that in treating such things as an artist, it was impossible he should be bound by the same rigid laws as a historian. A writer of romance must be romantic; and Scott took the materials which each party possessed for that purpose as they came to hand. If Stuarts, Cavaliers and Jacobites had more of them than Puritans and Whigs, that was not Sir Walter Scott's fault. A losing cause, just for the very reason that it is so often entwined with much that is ancient and venerable, is more likely to be the picturesque cause. And men are not less satisfied with the comforts of a good modern house because they have just seen the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey. And the word "picturesque" may be applied to sentiments and ideas as well as to material objects: some are more suitable than others to the painter's art, and it does not at all follow that they are sure to be those which are the most entitled to our homage.

It may be said, of course, that this is no sufficient justification of Sir Walter Scott; that the facts of history are too precious to be treated in this manner; and that to pervert the judgment of a whole generation with regard to great principles, and the character, conduct and motives of their ancestors, is a crime not to be atoned for by the production of a brilliant novel. We should be disposed to say, that this is a question of degree; and that the degree in which Scott has really offended against history is so trifling as to take him altogether out of the category of such persons. In the case of Mary, Queen of Scots, he lets his own serious opinion be seen very plainly; and we have always admired the extraordinary skill which he has shown in conveying this impression to the reader without

in the least injuring the effect which it was his object, as an artist, to produce. Nearly the same thing may be said of his treatment of the entire question from the days of Queen Mary down to those of Prince Charles Edward. In 'Peveril of the Peak,' in 'Old Mortality,' in 'Rob Roy,' and in 'Waverley,' he never disguises his conviction that the Stuart cause was practically the wrong one. The champions of the Puritans, if they want truth, must not object to the whole truth; and Scott good humouredly laughs at their acknowledged peculiarities, as he does at those of the Cavaliers. Mause Headrigg is hardly more ridiculous than Roger Wildrake. Bothwell is certainly more repulsive than Balfour of Burley, and gets the worst of the quarrel. Scott's most charming heroine was a Puritan, and two of his heroes, distinguished both in love and in war, were Rebels. In all his appeals to the imagination there is always an audible "aside," which is for the benefit of the reason. Nor do we honestly believe that the sympathies with romantic misfortune, which he evokes and sustains with so much power, are ever in real danger of corrupting our historical judgment.

The royal and noble persons whom he has introduced in his historical fictions are probably painted very much as they appeared to the majority of their contemporaries, who had no very strong bias. His Queen Elizabeth is much what we should suppose her to have seemed, whether we take Mr. Froude's or any other estimate of her character. The fascinations of her rival cannot very easily be exaggerated. Charles the Second repays the hospitality of Sir Henry Lee by attempting the ruin of his daughter; and nothing worse was ever said of him; and he lounges through his palace at Whitehall with all the easy grace, good-natured affability, and ready wit, which are his traditional characteristics. Nobody has ever asserted that the picture of Prince Charles Edward was too favourable. Charles of Burgundy and Louis the Eleventh, Richard and John of England, are inevitably rather more of lay figures.

We have hitherto addressed ourselves only to those points in the Waverley Novels which have at different times, and by various critics, been challenged. A few parting words must be given to those in which all agree. We are informed by the booksellers that the novels which sell most readily in the cheap modern editions are those of which the scenes are laid in England—'Kenilworth' and 'The Fortunes of Nigel,' 'Woodstock' and 'Ivanhoe'; and that of the Scotch ones, the popular favourites are 'Waverley,' 'The Abbot,' and 'The Bride of Lammermoor';—'Guy Mannering,' 'Rob Roy,' 'The Antiquary,' 'Old Mortality,' 'The Heart of Mid-Lothian,' &c., being rarely asked for. This was not the verdict of Scott's contemporaries; for though 'Waverley' and 'Kenilworth' were always in the front, 'Guy Mannering' and 'Old Mortality' were thought to be the foremost; but it probably indicates as just a conception of his genius. The fact we have quoted shows a marked preference for those in which there is a strong tragic element. Four out of the seven we have quoted possess it in a high degree. And if 'The Antiquary,' where it also fills a large space, has sunk, 'The Fortunes of Nigel' and 'The Bride of Lammermoor' have risen in

public estimation. It is possible that the opening chapter of 'The Antiquary' may have deterred many readers from pursuing that inimitable story till the full beauty of the contrast between Glenallan Castle, wrapped in solemn and mysterious gloom, and the cheerful, bright, middle-class life of comfortable Monkbarrow breaks upon them. 'The Bride of Lammermoor' carries no such weight. The story begins at once; from first to last are we oppressed by that lurid and sultry atmosphere charged to bursting with such elements of misery. A sense of impending doom is over us throughout; nor can the absurdities of Caleb Balderstone chase from our minds for an instant the fortunes of the fated lovers. 'The Bride of Lammermoor' is a complete tragedy, far superior both in design and execution to 'Kenilworth,' because our interest is never divided, and the action is never broken. But it is in the character of Ravenswood himself that the grandeur of the tale consists. We know not whether it has ever been observed before that this is the only effort which Scott ever made in the Byronic style. Lockhart calls this novel the "purest and most powerful of the tragedies which Scott ever wrote," and De Quincey saw in it his nearest approach to Shakspeare. Its rise in public favour must therefore be regarded as a hopeful sign of the times. Scott, then, as a consummate tragedian, is a character to which we may say that universal consent has been given. A second point is one that we might not have thought it necessary to allude to but for certain social phenomena of the present age at which we have already glanced: we mean the masculine simplicity of his mind in all cases where vice is in question. Would any lady put 'The Heart of Mid-Lothian' out of her daughter's reach? or would any gentleman dread the effect of the Baron of Bradwardine's example on his son? In this respect there is another curious resemblance between Scott and Dickens. The remarkable fact that no one, even at the present day, sees any harm in the whole Pickwick Club getting drunk, not once only, but habitually, has already been noticed by a distinguished critic. And no one has ever charged the 'Pickwick Papers' with any tendency to promote excess. The story of 'Little Em'ly' is equally free from all taint, not only of prurience, but even coarseness. In the character of Hetty Sorrel, Miss Evans has shown how closely she could tread in these footsteps; but there is a nameless something even there—a taint of animalism—which makes it inferior.

Something like a re-action set in against Sir Walter Scott between thirty and forty years ago. The warlike and conservative age which had received with rapture his pictures in which feudalism and loyalty were the main sources of interest was passing away, and the age so well described by Burke was coming in its stead. But that too, having done its work, is disappearing, and with its departure is reviving that cordial sympathy with Sir W. Scott which succeeding centuries will only confirm and enlarge. From the revival of letters to the present day it is questionable whether anything will, in the judgment of posterity, be found worthier to rank after Shakspeare's dramas and Milton's epics than the Waverley Novels.

Napoleon Fallen: a Lyrical Drama. By Robert Buchanan. (Strahan & Co.)

MR. BUCHANAN takes care, in his preface, to inform us that in the present work he has nowhere expressed his own political opinions; but there is perhaps no great rashness, for all that, in determining that he is certainly not an Imperialist. There is little mercy shown to the fallen Emperor in his pages. The scene is Wilhelmshöhe; the time, shortly after the surrender of Sedan. The opening shows us German citizens walking in the gardens of the château, and talking, of course, of the great prisoner. "O, he may thank the fates" (says one)—

He sits so snug, the man of sin!—
How cunningly, before the end,
The Snake contrived to save his skin!

FIRST CITIZEN.

Thou art too hard upon him, friend.
He saw that all his cards were played,
And so, to save more bloodshed, strayed
Into the cage.

SECOND CITIZEN.

A cage, indeed!
Where from a gold plate he may feed
Of all earth's dainties, while afar
France, 'neath the tramping feet of War,
Bleeds like a winepress. There he lolls,
Butcher of bodies and of souls,
Smiling, and sees the storm blow by!

Next we have Napoleon himself and a physician, who tells him his ailment is "spiritual," and advises books and music, and casting away care—which last, like many things recommended by the faculty, is easier said than done. Then comes a long soliloquy to the following effect:—

Yes, sick—sick—sick;
Sick of the world; sick of the fitful fools
That I have played with; sick, forsooth, of breath,
Of thought, of hope, of Time. I staked my Soul
Against a Crown, and won. I wore the Crown,
And 'twas of burning fire. I staked my Crown
Against a Continent, and lost. I am here;
Fallen, unking'd, the shadow of a power,
Yet not heart-broken—no, not heart-broken—
But surely with more equable a pulse
Than when I sat on yonder lonely Seat
Fishing for wretched souls, and for my sport,
Although the bait was glorious gifts of earth,
Hooking the basest only.

The soliloquist goes on to expose freely his dynastic aims, while affirming that he was by choice "always a man of peace":—

"Blood may flow,"
I thought, "a little blood—a few poor drops,—
A few poor drops of blood; but they shall prove
Pearls of great price to buy my people peace;
The hounds of War shall turn from our fair fields,
The cannon shall become a trumpet of praise,
And on my son a robe like this I wear
Shall fall, and make him royal for all time!"
O fool, fool, fool! What was I but a child,
Pleased beyond understanding with a toy,
Till in mine ears the scream of murder'd France
Rang like a knell.

After which follows a chorus, with due strophe and antistrophe—

Ah woe! Ah woe!
How art thou fallen, Man of Mysteries! &c.,
which over, "enter a Bishop," who carries various interesting pieces of news to Napoleon, and first of all regarding the Empress and the young Prince: they are in England,

Where they have found a home
Among the frozen-blooded islanders
Who yesterday called blessings on thy brow,
And now rejoice in thy calamity.

Whereto Napoleon responds,
Old man, I never looked for friendship there,
I never loved that England in my heart;
Tho' 'twas by such a sampler I believed

To weave our France's fortunes thriftily
With the gold tissues of prosperity.

The Bishop tells him the true cause of his downfall,—his want of staunchness in supporting the Church,—remarking, with considerable reason, that the Imperial throne was reared

Most and last, upon the help of those
Who to remotest corners of our land
Watch o'er the souls of men, sit at their hearths,
Lend their solemnity to birth and death,
Guide as they list the motions of the mind,
And as they list with darkness or with light
Appease the spiritual hunger. Where
Had France been, and thou, boasted Sun of France
For nineteen harvests, save for those who crept
Thine agents into every cottage door,
Slowly distilling thro' each vein of France
The vital blood of empire? Like to slaves
These served thee, used thy glory for a charm,
Hung up thine image in the peasant's room
Beside our blessed saints.

Perhaps the most poetical passage in the book is the description that follows, of the present attitude of the nations of the earth:—

Note how, upon her rock,
The sea-beast Albion, swollen with idle years
Of basking in the prosperous sunshine, rolls
Her fearful eyes, and murmurs. See how wildly
The merciless Russian paces like a bear
His lonely steppes of snow, and with deep moan
Calling his hideous young, casts famished eyes
On that thorn Paralytic in the East
Whom thou of old didst save. Call thou to these
For succour; shall they stir? Will the sea-beast
Budge from her rock? Will the bear leave his wilds?
Then mark how feebly in the wintry cold
Old Austria ruffles up her plumage, Sire,
Covering the half-heal'd wound upon her neck;
See how on Spain her home-bred vermin feed,
As did the worms on Herod; Italy
Is as a dove-cote by a battle-field,
Abandoned to the kites of infamy;
Belgium, Denmark, and Helvetia,
Like plovers watching while the wind-hover
Strikes down one of their miserable kind,
Wheeling upon the wind, cry to each other;
And far away the Eagle of the West,
Poised in the lull of her own hurricane,
Sits watching thee with eyes as blank of love
As those grey seas that break beneath her feet.

In fine, argues the Bishop, there is no help for the fallen Emperor save in the power of the Papacy, which, for a moment eclipsed and despised, is

Based
Invulnerable on the soul of man,
Its darkest needs and fears.
* * *
In her dark book of Fate
E'en now she dooms the Teuton.

At which point the conversation is interrupted by successive messengers announcing the German advance on Paris, Bazaine's holding Metz in the Emperor's name, and the proclamation of the Republic. This last news draws from Napoleon a significant aside:—

Now, may the foul fiend blacken all the air
Above these Frenchmen, with revolt and fear
Darken alike the wits of friends and foes,
With swift confusion and with anarchy
Disturb their fretful councils, till at last,
Many-tongued, wild-haired, mad, and horrible,
With fiery eyes and naked crimson limbs,
Upriseth the old Spectre of the Red,
And as of yore uplifts the shameful knife
To stab unhappy France; then, in her need,
Fearful and terror-stricken, France shall call
On him who gave her nineteen years of sleep—
And he may rise again.

The Chorus again has its way, with rhymes of Swinburnean swing:—

Sons, ye are bloody-shod! Sons, ye breathe bloody
breath!
Your nostrils feel, O sons, the salt sharp stench of
death!

Your brethren rot afield, your children cry in the
dark;
Across your sisters' throats the butcher leaves his
mark.

After this come a lengthy conversation between Napoleon and an officer who has escaped from Paris in a balloon, and an announcement by a messenger that "Rome is taken." Then Napoleon sleeps; and to him, sleeping, come the spirits of his mother Hortense, of the first Napoleon, of Julius Caesar, of Maximilian of Mexico, singing in turn verses of no very soothing tendency; so that the Emperor, at last awaking, may well say, "I have had ill dreams." He opens 'A Life of Jesus,' falls into reflections on theology, drinks a composing draught, and goes to sleep again with a kind of prayer on his lips. The work ends with several choruses and semi-choruses of a mystical character, announcing that "In his white robes of peace, CHRIST shall arise and reign."

The plan, it will be seen (which includes no action whatever), somewhat recalls Shelley's 'Hellas.' The style is of that over-loaded kind of which Shelley was probably the avant-courier, and which in weaker hands has been so abused in our own day. A flare and glare of words dazzle us from every page,—"eagle," "wolf," "hydra," "blood," "fire," "lightning," "hurricane," "earthquake," "God," "Hell," &c. The versification, though sometimes imperfect, apparently through haste, has much impetus and vivacity.

As a *tour de force*, this extemporary piece is by no means discredit to Mr. Buchanan's skill of hand; but we do not think it can add anything to his permanent claims as an artist.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, of the Reign of Elizabeth, 1601-1603. With Addenda, 1547-1565. Preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. Edited by Mary Anne Everett Green. (Longmans & Co.)

THIS volume brings to a close the reign of Elizabeth, and contains some papers hitherto uncalendered, of an earlier date. The contents are miscellaneous. Among the most remarkable documents are those referring to proceedings taken against the adherents of the Earl of Essex. Students of ecclesiastical history will be interested with the details of the controversy between the Jesuits and the secular priests in England, which Pope Clement the Eighth decided by declaring that the jurisdiction of the Jesuits was to be confined to their own order. The secular priests hoped for some indulgence from the English Government, as they countenanced no attempts (they said) against the life or authority of Elizabeth. The Government did not answer to the hope. They acknowledged the honesty of English gentlemen who were born Catholics when England was Catholic, and who bore orders in the Catholic Church. Such priests were Englishmen before they were ordained, and they remained so afterwards. But there were also secular priests, who had been trained in foreign seminaries, and brought up under foreign influences, hostile to England, her Church and her Queen. These persons were Englishmen if you will, but first Papists. The Queen's proclamation says, "We would gladly distinguish between the two, but we cannot.

The Pope, as a temporal prince, still continues his warlike stratagems against us." The priests are reminded that their presence in England is contrary to statute law.

All readers have heard of the story of a ring having been sent by Essex, when under condemnation, to Elizabeth, by the hands of the Countess of Nottingham, who detained it till she was on her own death-bed, when the token was despatched, with confession, to the Queen. Mrs. Green thinks that the story is in some measure confirmed by details in this volume. The matter is not without a certain importance. We leave our readers to come to a conclusion upon it, merely stating that the following passages are extracts from two letters, written in March, 1603, by Anthony Rivers to Italian correspondents at Venice:—

"The Countess of Nottingham is dead, and her husband the Admiral keeps his chamber, mourning in sad earnest. 'The Queen loved the Countess well, and hath much lamented her death, remaining ever since in a deep melancholy that she must die herself, and complaineth much of many infirmities wherewith she seemeth suddenly to be overtaken; as imposthume in her head, aches in her bones, and continual cold in her legs, besides a notable decay of judgment and memory, insomuch as she cannot abide discourses of government and state, but delighteth to hear old Canterbury tales, to which she is very attentive; at other times impatient and testy, so as none of the Council, but Secretary, dare come in her presence. All are in a dump at Court; some fear present danger, others doubt she will not continue past the month of May, but generally all are of opinion that she cannot overpass another winter.'"

The passage from the second letter, written on the same day, runs thus:—

"The rumours of Arabella much afflict the Queen; she has not been well since the Countess of Nottingham's death, rests ill at nights, forbears to use the air in the day, and abstains more than usual from her meat, resisting physic, and is suspicious of some about her as ill-affected."

These interesting details seem to us to leave the legend pretty well where it was before.

That there were, as we have said above, English Catholics who were thoroughly English at heart, there are many examples, but none more conclusive or more interesting than the following. It is from a paper—itsself of much importance—by Father Bluet, who says in one part of it, in reference to the enlargement of priests on personal parole to surrender themselves at a stated time, "In England, a priest, even in danger of his life, is often released on his word":—

"King Philip, provoked by Parsons, prepared another expedition against England, and Parsons promised to send with it 12 priests, who, on approaching the shore, should land with a few soldiers, and induce the people to defection. The fleet being ready, four had entered; but the fifth, a prudent and learned man, said 'Father, if you will send me into England with the Holy Bible in one hand and the sacred missal in the other, as becomes a priest, I will go willingly and shed my blood for defence of the Gospel and Catholic faith, but I will not ascend an enemy's fleet, armed against my beloved country; for the arms of our warfare are not carnal, but powerful in God to the destruction of strongholds, &c. Parsons was so irritated at this that he expelled him the college without *vaticum*. The fleet set sail, but between Lisbon and Ferrol 34 ships perished in one night. That priest reached England not without peril. After a few years, labouring in God's work, he fell into the hands of the Puritans last September, in the town 'Legionum,' not far from Ireland, the Spaniards invading the island. The ruler of the town wrote to the Council that he had in bonds

a Seminary from Ireland; the Council ordered him to death. He wrote to me expressing his willingness to die unless he were thought necessary to the church of God. I wrote to the bishop, who sent my letters to the Queen's secretary, and a messenger was instantly sent to bring the priest to London, to remain in free custody, his friends being allowed access to him."

Under the Tudors, we hoped to come upon Shakspeare; but we only fall in with a Roger Shakspeare, an informer; and he appears here, in Mary's reign, laying information that "Cuthbert Temple has absented himself from church 1½ years, and is associated with Aston, Dudley, and Bedell, now in the Tower, and one Glover, of Coventry, whose brother of late was burned. There is a man who owes Temple 700*l.*, to be paid by 100*l.* yearly. He would now take 400*l.* to have it paid immediately":—which was wise in Temple, considering how Shakspeare had brought him to grief, and ready money might serve to help him out of it.

Of samples of the doings, if not the sayings, of the period the volume is full. Oxford comes out very conspicuously. Chamberlain writes of the Oxford Commemoration of 1602 in a way to bring the whole scene before us:—"It was very famous for plenty of doctors," he says, and still more "for store of venison, where Dr. King had twenty-seven bucks." There was plenty of preaching and of royal cheer after it, and crowds of "gentles," that were, however, outnumbered by crowds of cut-purses. The *sectores zonarii* were busier than all the rest put together. Even at this distance of time, we are shocked at finding that a gentleman so every way worthy of being respected as Mr. Bodley should have lost his cloak on that autumnal day. But what was that to the compound loss, on one side, and the capital gain on the side of the cut-purses, indicated in the following bit of intelligence?—"Sir Richard Lea lost two jewels of 200 marks, which he and Sir Henry Lea meant to bestow on the bride, Mr. Tanfield's daughter." The cut-purses seem to have escaped with their booty, which they probably converted into cash, and that into pottles of drink at some blind alehouse near Cock Lane, or with a bevy of light-o'-love hussies in the bowers of the Cardinal's Hat on Bankside. There are hundreds of other subjects illustrated in this Calendar. Among them may be especially noticed, what Mrs. Green calls "the details of the rough wooing by the English Government, under Protector Somerset, of the young Queen Mary of Scotland, for their King, styled, in the parlance of the times, 'the godly purpose.'"

What I Saw of the War at the Battles of Speichern, Gorze, and Gravelotte: a Narrative of Two Months' Campaigning with the Prussian Army of the Moselle. By the Hon. C. Allanson Winn. (Blackwood & Sons.)

From Sedan to Saarbrück. By an Officer of the Royal Artillery. (Tinsley Brothers.)

THE first of these books, though written by one who was neither prepared, by a professional education, like the Officer of the Royal Artillery, nor by experience as a newspaper correspondent, like many of the writers on the war, for the task of observing and deducing from the most important act in the military drama which has rendered the year 1870 so noteworthy among its fellows, is yet of extreme

value. Mr. Winn makes no pretence to knowledge of an art which, like all other arts, requires study and apprenticeship for its due comprehension, but for the most part confines himself to either telling us what he actually saw or what he was told by actors in the struggle, when their recollections of events were fresh. His evidence, therefore, will be of great use to those who seek to write a history of the war, for it is evidence at first hand, given by an educated and trustworthy witness. Naturally, considering the circumstances of his sojourn with the Prussian army, there is a certain bias in favour of the victors; but the bias can easily be separated from the facts, and the valuable facts remain.

Mr. Winn was fortunate enough to obtain permission to accompany General Von Göben's (the 8th) Corps throughout the campaign, and his book is chiefly made up of incidents connected with the operations of that part of the army. Passing over the skirmish at Saarbrück as unworthy of notice, our author takes us with him to the heights of Speichern, which he describes as consisting of three tiers or steps in the face of the steep acclivity. So steep, indeed, was the hill that, when Mr. Winn a day or two afterwards ascended it, he was, though unencumbered with rifle, ammunition and knapsack, quite out of breath when he reached the top. The heights were attacked first by only one or two regiments in skirmishing order, supported by artillery. The assailants being repulsed, fresh troops and guns were brought up; and, the fight being constantly fed on the Prussian side, the tide of victory surged gradually up the hill-side, till, the summit being towards the close of the day reached, Forbach, on the French right, captured, and the flank of the latter consequently turned, they broke and fled. The abandoned heights were not, however, occupied by the victors till the following day. There seems to have been—with the exception, perhaps, of the struggle at Forbach—no hand-to-hand fighting. "French and Prussians approached each other to within forty or fifty yards, and there stood firing." The secret of the success of the Prussians in carrying an apparently inexpugnable position was, that through the negligence of General Froissard, the supply of artillery was most inadequate, and the reserves were posted at such a distance in the rear and were so badly handled that they arrived too late to stem the Prussian onset. The following anecdote, the hero of which is Major Forbes, the able Correspondent of the *Daily News*, deserves to be preserved:—

"See, there is a poor fellow in the 8th Regiment—he can never get here. A shot has struck him in the knee, and the bullets fly thickly about. He is not more than fifty yards off from us—come, we must try and drag him to our shelter. Ah! there is some one before us. It is my companion! Unseen by us, he has lain some time in this glen, the chasspot bullets singing over our heads, and now, ignorant of our presence, darts out and lifts the wounded man on to his back in a twinkling, for, though Prussian soldiers are not feather-weights, the major is strong, and has been one of England's athletes. They are comparatively safe in less than a minute; and now you have seen one of the bravest and least known deeds of the whole campaign."

Any other nation than the Prussians would have rewarded this exploit with a decoration.

After the battle of Speichern, or Forbach, Bazaine fell back rapidly, hoping to effect a junction with Macmahon, who had been beaten at Wörth. The 1st and 2nd armies under Steinmetz and Prince Frederick Charles pushed forward, being anxious to force Bazaine to give battle before he could either join Macmahon or gain the protection of Metz. At Lauvallier, about eight miles east of Metz, Bazaine turned to bay in a position strengthened by previously constructed rifle-pits. On this Von Moltke made up his mind to play for a great stake. Occupying Bazaine's attention in front with Steinmetz's army, he sent off Prince Frederick Charles to cross the Moselle by bridge at Pont-au-Mousson, about twenty-five miles below Metz, and by pontoons at Arie, about twelve miles nearer that town, with orders to bar the retreat of the French by the Verdun road. These were the orders issued on the 13th. On the following day Steinmetz attacked the French left with the 1st Corps, and was repulsed with great loss. Towards evening the 7th Corps came up on the left of the 1st Corps and somewhat restored the fight, but the Prussians suffered heavily, and the French retired fighting and unbroken into Metz. Two other corps were in rear of the attacking corps that day, but whether because they were too far in the rear or that the Prussians did not wish to push Bazaine back too heavily, they were not engaged. On the 15th Bazaine rested. Steinmetz utilized the time thus allowed him by marching south-west. In the mean time Prince Frederick Charles had, without exciting the observation of the French, crossed the Moselle with the greatest part of his army at the points indicated, and on the 15th marched towards his destined position. On the 16th Bazaine marched, and his leading troops had already proceeded as far as Mars La Tour, on the Verdun road, and about nine miles from Metz, when it was met about 9 A.M. by the cavalry of the 3rd Corps: at least, so our author says, but as the cavalry of a corps consists of only about 3,600 sabres and 18 guns, we imagine that the cavalry of two or more corps must have been employed. Be that as it may, the French advance was kept in check by a body of cavalry, which suffered fearful losses, but maintained their ground for five hours, at the end of which time, the infantry of the 3rd Corps coming up from the south-east by the defiles of Gorze, suddenly appeared on the left flank of the French. The corps of Froissard and L'Admirault at once formed line to their left, and advanced to attack the Bois des Ognons, which was already occupied by the Prussians. The French, among whom were the Imperial Guard, endeavoured to take the wood under cover of a heavy fire of artillery. Their advance, however, was checked, and during many hours the Prussians, advancing in skirmishing order, slowly gained ground. About 6 P.M. Prince Frederick Charles and Steinmetz, part of the latter's army having by this time arrived on the field, brought up heavy reserves, and towards 8 P.M. the French, though still fighting stoutly, made a decided retrograde movement, favoured in this operation by the increasing darkness of the night. The losses on both sides were fearful; but, as was to be expected, heavier on the side of the Prussians than on that of the French. In and near the little town of Gorze, after which the Germans have named the battle, 18,000 wounded

Prussians were collected. "Blood was literally running down the hill to the town." One regiment which had left Germany 3,150 strong came out of the battle of Gorze numbering no more than 900. The wounds inflicted by shells were of a most ghastly nature; but on the other hand, many of those proceeding from musket-balls were of a comparatively trifling description. The sufferer was in many cases struck in apparently a vital spot; but the conical bullet having been turned by some bone or muscle had inflicted only a superficial wound. "The surgeon told me that he considered it would be difficult to invent a less dangerous bullet than the chassepot rifle carried."

In the night following the battle of Gorze the French army threw back its right, and took up a position perpendicular to that held the previous day, and nearly parallel to the course of the Moselle. Their left rested on Jussy, and their right on St. Privat. The Germans numbered about 180,000 men, the French somewhat less. The Germans' plan was to make a slight attack on the French right, with a view to tempt Bazaine to draw troops from his left centre at St. Hubert and Moscau. Should he fall into the trap, it was intended to throw the 7th Corps, concealed in the Bois des Ognons, on the extreme German right between the French and Metz, and surround them. Should Bazaine not be deluded by the German demonstrations it was determined to attack him in front, and drive him into Metz. This last alternative the Germans were compelled to adopt, and a most bloody battle ensued. The brunt of the action was about St. Hubert. The French had the advantage of being posted on a higher range of heights than that occupied by the Prussians, who moreover had to cross a deep glen some hundred yards wide, when they advanced to the attack. The French had also loop-holed some houses and constructed a row of rifle-pits. It is most creditable to the Germans, therefore, that after a long and bloody struggle they won the day. The French made a most gallant resistance, and prolonged the struggle till between two and three A.M. on the 19th. At one time, indeed, they had a chance of victory. About seven in the evening the French made a brilliant attack on Gravelotte; the Prussians, seized with panic, fled like sheep; and had the French cavalry promptly charged, the day might have belonged to the French. The precious opportunity was, however, allowed to escape, and the King, bringing up a fresh corps and rallying the fugitives, the tide of victory once more surged towards Metz. Our author estimates the loss of the Prussians at from 7,000 to 9,000, while he considers that the French, owing to their sheltered position, did not lose more than as many hundreds. We know our author to be mistaken in his low estimate of the French loss, though doubtless it was much less than that of the Prussians. It may, however, be as well to caution the reader against Mr. Winn when he ventures on computations. To show how little he is to be accepted as an authority, we may mention that he speaks of having seen six regiments of cavalry, each of three *battalions*, each *battalion* numbering 1,000 men. The following account of the effect of the mitrailleuse on cavalry is interesting:—

"It was about three o'clock that Malméison

was taken by our troops, and it was on some Uhlans who tried to cut off the retreat of some Voltigeurs from it that the mitrailleuse so terribly vindicated its character for destruction. A squadron rode forward with its usual pride and confidence; we heard the growl of the truly infernal machine; we saw an unwonted confusion in the lancers' ranks; they wheeled and retired, leaving behind them thirty-two struggling horses and as many men. They had unwittingly crossed the fatal line of fire; and had they waited to rescue their fallen comrades, three minutes would have sufficed to the French artillerymen to put them in the same helpless condition."

Our author remained with the investing army till a short time before the capitulation of Metz, and supplies us with some interesting gossip respecting the inner life of the Prussian army on a campaign. He cannot speak too highly of the kindness, courtesy, and humanity of both officers and men, and apparently with a certain amount of justice. There can be no doubt, however, that the character of the Prussian army has greatly deteriorated since the commencement of the campaign, and that both as regards the system and individuals war has for some time past been carried on in a manner worthy of the Imperialists of the Thirty Years' War. Even at Metz, however, the Prussians were guilty of a shameful act of cruelty towards the peaceful inhabitants of Ars. "The men usually employed in these factories were now all compelled to turn out and help to construct rifle-pits and earth-works." The inhabitants of other towns and villages in the neighbourhood were treated in the same manner. The Prussians, in dealing even with the enemy's officers, displayed an amount of ill manners and harshness which the public have, at length, come to recognize as a too frequent characteristic. A French major, on one occasion, came out with a flag of truce. How he was received and treated, the following extract will show:—

"There was not that amount of courtesy displayed to him that I should have expected to see, and I felt keenly for the poor fellow, as, with a respectful but dignified and self-possessed air, he passed through the group of officers. . . . It appeared from this statement that typhus was raging in Metz, and that the medical staff was wholly inadequate, numerically speaking, to attend on the sufferers. He begged therefore that an ambulance corps might be sent into Metz, sufficient to attend upon the German wounded, and those who were sick of the typhus. He made his request with much gentle dignity, but with the air of one who thought his demand was certain to be complied with, and I confess it was with no small amount of sorrow that we had to convey to him a refusal. I shall never forget the poor fellow's face. . . . He arose, and, expressing his regret with dignity, reminded the General, with a slight irony, that when the Prussians, after Gravelotte, sent to Metz for a French ambulance to attend to the French wounded, a well-appointed one was at once at their disposal. The General, who I knew to be a thoroughly kind-hearted man, said that, as merely a General of Division, he had no authority; but the French officer suggested, 'You are deputed from head-quarters to see me; refer the matter to head-quarters.' Why, I could never make out, but this did not seem to suit the Prussian views. So the aide-de-camp, I am sure with a very heavy heart, coldly saluting the officers present, and shaking us warmly by the hands, turned to go. . . . 'Mes amis,' said he, bitterly, as he turned his horse's head, 'si les Anglais fussent nos ennemis peut-être nous aurions reçu une autre réponse.'"

In Mr. Winn's book there is an interesting account of the sortie of the 31st of August,

which, however, is too long to admit of extracting. It appears that the French fought splendidly, and that, if Marshal Bazaine had followed up his success on the night of the 31st of August, he might have brought his army through the lines of the besiegers.

The "Officer of the Royal Artillery" was not so fortunate as Mr. Winn; he did not accompany either of the contending armies, but as a tourist he passed through the outskirts of the places that were at the time of his trip the scenes of actual fighting. The only operation he actually witnessed was the opening bombardment of Verdun. The author writes in a lively, agreeable manner, and gives an excellent sketch of districts which the advancing Prussians had already passed over. The most valuable part of the book consists in the notes on matters of military science, which the author's profession naturally led him to make, and which strike us as containing much that is correct and important.

THE LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1870.

In a lecture recently delivered at Boston, on "American Literature," Mr. G. W. Curtis stated as the two chief obstacles with which it had to contend—first, the absence of an International Copyright, which enabled publishers to furnish the best foreign works at a lower cost than would remunerate the American author for his productions; and, secondly, the extent to which the mind and energy of the country are concentrated upon the work of developing its physical resources, and building up its political power. The eloquent peroration of this lecture, in which the speaker contrasted the noble aims which unite England and America with the base rivalries and interests that alone could divide them, induces us to add, by the way, that if it be due to the causes mentioned that we find ourselves quoting the opinions of one of the most graceful and cultivated authors in the United States from a newspaper report, instead of announcing a new work from his pen, we may, at least, hope that other American scholars, who have been drawn into the strong current of political life, may be doing as brave service to mankind as this orator. The effect of the disparagements mentioned by him in an address to his countrymen for a special purpose cannot be taken *au pied de la lettre* on this side of the Atlantic, in any case; least of all in presence of the varied and characteristic works which the past year has brought us from the enterprising houses in America, which Mr. Curtis justly exonerates from the charge of opposition to the International Copyright. Yet the books before us do, to some extent, confirm the criticisms referred to. While they indicate every variety of ability, there are traces of haste, as if they had been, for the most part, thrown off incidentally amid ulterior pursuits. Explorations, of partly scientific partly personal interest,—adventures and roving which recall the Indian's ability to walk a hundred miles in a day, and which hardly limit themselves to the present world,—sketches and speculations which have previously done service in pulpit, lecture-room, or journal,—make up a mass of contributions to so many departments

of human interest that their purely literary value can hardly be said to preponderate.

Under these conditions, it were hardly to be expected that America would yield us much in the way of History. The boast of Thoreau that his village was not built upon the ruins of generations, seems to be reflected in a kind of literary Monroe doctrine, which withholds the newest generation of authors from paying much attention to the annals of the Old World. Nevertheless, we have salient exceptions in the works of Mr. H. C. Lea, which lie in the direction of History, though their interest is also in a great measure archaeological and philosophical. Mr. Lea's first book, 'Superstition and Force,' comprises essays on the Wager of Law, the Wager of Battle, the Ordeal, and Torture. With regard to the origin and history of these in Europe, the work is remarkably full, and even erudite. There is not an equal comprehensiveness with regard to the contemporary ordeals found among savages. It is, for example, an interesting fact, which has escaped the author's notice, that the ordeal by fire, the first legal mention of which is among the Riparian Franks, and that by water, which originated in India, are both in common use in the kingdom of Dahomey, especially in connexion with sacrilege. There are, too, among the American Indians indications of appeals to death which strangely recall the custom of Hari-kari in Japan, as in the story of the Comanche warrior who challenged his rival to ride with him over a precipice. In compensation, however, for the absence of an ethnological survey of his subject, Mr. Lea enables us to trace to their origin the ordeals that lingered with us as long as the belief in witches, and the duel; while his admirable essay on the Wager of Law has prepared abundant material for the Darwin of social evolution, when he shall come. Mr. Lea's latest work, 'Studies in Church History,' fully sustains the promise of the first. It deals with three subjects—the Temporal Power, Benefit of Clergy, and Excommunication,—the second of which has a peculiar importance for the English student, and is a chapter on Ancient Law likely to be regarded as final. We can hardly pass from our mention of such works as these—with which that on 'Sacredotal Celibacy' should be included—without noting the literary phenomenon that beneath the author's name that of "Henry C. Lea" should appear as publisher, reminding us that the head of one of the first American houses is also the writer of some of its most original books.

America, however, is herself making history so fast, that it is not surprising to find the ablest American historian of the present day absorbed in the task of interpreting the great events which have recently occurred, and which make it an anachronism to say that "America has no history." To those who have read Dr. John William Draper's 'History of the Intellectual Development of Europe,' few announcements could have been more important than that the same author had undertaken to write the History of the American Civil War. This large work, as now completed by the publication of its third volume, is interesting enough to recall the saying of one of Dr. Draper's countrymen, that when history is properly written there will be no more romances. Of what it is common to hear called "the school

of Buckle,"—in this case, however, we mean only that he is an earnest believer in the science of history,—Dr. Draper displayed in his 'History of the Intellectual Development of Europe' an equal range of reading with Mr. Buckle, and a greater alertness in grouping his facts. It is no derogation from his unquestionable genius to say that he is not so much an historian as a philosopher of the modern "evolutionist" school, engaged in the interpretation of history by means of his theorem. History is to him no drama illustrating the action of heroes, but the march of societies along a pre-ordained path to an inevitable end. It might be anticipated that to a mind occupied by this view any passionate or partisan view of the struggle concerning which he has now written would be impossible. Such indeed is the case; the author looks upon the civil war as the unavoidable result of forces dating from an origin before any of the chief actors in it were born; and the calmness of his style and the dispassionate judgment present at every page, show that his statement of this point of view is no mere profession, but a pervading conviction. The author works up his materials with a skill which overlooks not even minute details, while it masters the largest combinations; and his work—taken with Mr. Greeley's careful chronicle—no doubt represents the thing as it will stand in history. That such prodigious events should have so speedily been relegated to their several pigeon-holes warrants the hope that passions and feuds connected with them speedily pass out of the popular mind, South and North. Nevertheless, thorough though this work be, so far as the American side of the contest is concerned, we regret to find that one part of the subject still awaits a hand sufficiently dispassionate to deal with it. The American war became necessarily an English question; and we are sorry that Dr. Draper could find no better materials in dealing with English relations to it than the long citations he makes from the *Times* newspaper. We cannot go into this matter at length; but as an evidence of the incompleteness of the 'History' as it affects England, we quote the following sentence:—"It is impossible to express the pain felt by loyal and conservative men in America when it was announced that the Ministry of Lord Palmerston had determined to concede belligerent rights to the South." Now, as a matter of fact, so long was it before the recognition of Southern belligerency was made a part of diplomatic reclamations, that it would have been interesting had our author quoted the Congressional debates or the articles in the press, upon which this statement is based. Apart from this, however, it would have been only just had he recorded that the recognition complained of was made at the request of those very friends of the North whom he elsewhere praises, and was the result of their desire that America might have undisputed authority to arrest English blockade-runners. The recognition of Southern belligerency by France is passed over with a mere note of the fact; and the rejected proposition of that country to England, for a joint intervention in favour of the Confederacy, is not even mentioned.

In connexion with the work of Dr. Draper, the 'Life of Jefferson Davis, with a Secret History of the Southern Confederacy,' by Mr. Edward A. Pollard, has a certain interest—

though often a gossipy interest, as showing the stages by which the conspiracy of a few politicians gradually became a powerful popular movement. Mr. Pollard was a resident in Richmond during the greater part of the war, and was evidently well acquainted with the leading actors in it; and there is a tone of truthfulness in his narrative. His conclusion—a novel one—is, that the defeat of the South was due to the moral desertion of its cause by the people, and not at all from physical prostration before the superior resources or numbers of the North.

Those who regard the influence of great men as of comparatively little importance in shaping the destinies of a country, will find few names that fall more readily into their theory than that of Daniel Webster. The imposing biography of this statesman, which Mr. George Ticknor Curtis, who has written with care, as well as with evident admiration for his friend, shows us a figure which seems to correspond in grandeur with the features of American scenery itself. Yet he seems hardly to have left more than a ripple upon the great flood of events. The questions, bills, compromises, to which his eloquence gave such dignity, and which loomed on the horizon less than a generation ago, have now become mere illustrations of an individual character. John Randolph, of Virginia, sometimes referred to him in Congress as "the attorney for Massachusetts," and to the last his countrymen felt that whether arguing for protection or defending slavery, he was in some way looking for his retaining fee. His fetishes were the Constitution and the Union, and his power was that of the most eloquent casuist of his country. Mr. Curtis's volumes are heavy, and we cannot but think that many anecdotes about the early and later life of his hero exist which might have relieved the monotony of his encomium.

If the life of Daniel Webster exhibits the power of a merely mercantile standard to drag down high powers, the records of some other lives in America illustrate the power of great principles to raise, and even ennoble, the commonest men that ally themselves with a great cause. In 'The Life of Arthur Tappan,' written by his brother, Lewis Tappan, we have the portrait of a plain, business man, in Massachusetts, benevolent and religious, which becomes transformed by some occasional wrong perpetrated by slavery into the brave figure of a pioneer in that movement which has made a new America. Among the striking stories is one of a Southern merchant, who, having come North to purchase goods, sought out Mr. Tappan's house. "I do not," he said, "come here to buy goods because I like you. I detest your principles; but I believe that Mr. Tappan is an honest man, and will deal fairly by me." This must have been about the time when the *Herald* was publishing the names of anti-slavery firms in New York, in order that the Southerners might avoid them!

Dr. Shelton Mackenzie's 'Life of Charles Dickens' is but one of various works supplied to the popular craving for personal reminiscences and domestic details awakened by the death of the most popular of English novelists. It is neither worse nor better than others of the same class. The latest volume of the posthumous works of Nathaniel Hawthorne,—his 'English Note-Books,'—is of extreme interest. Hawthorne

was what we may almost call an intensified American, so that he can hardly help seeing a resemblance in every person or every thing he likes in England to some person or thing at home; and his observations are all the more racy on that account. He speaks, by the way, of seeing flowers gathered from our gardens on Christmas Day. What would he say had he been with us during last Christmas week, when, by all accounts, flowers were gathered from the gardens of New England. It is curious to contrast with these genial and charming notes the 'Letters from London,' by Mr. George M. Dallas, the American Minister in England from the time of the breaking out of the Crimean War to that of the American War. These letters show at least that under the old democratic régime the offices of an American Minister abroad were thought to include a report of all the floating diplomatic gossip around him.

Among works of Travel two may be especially welcomed as the compensating products of a great failure to bring us into intercourse with regions but little known. When the Atlantic cable killed the enterprise of a Russo-American telegraph 600,000*l.* were sunk, but there remained two officers connected with it who did not return home until they had reaped some fruit from the expedition. 'Alaska and its Resources,' by Lieut. Dall, presents far the most valuable account we have yet had of that region, and is well illustrated by pictures and a map. Mr. George Kennan's 'Tent Life in Siberia' is a more sketchy, but not less valuable account of some of the least known tribes of Northern Asia, notably of the very droll Koraks, where the youth must work two years for his sweetheart in order to have the privilege of trying to capture her against a very perilous defence by her female friends,—failing, to work two years more, &c. In his 'Journey to Musadu' Mr. Benjamin Anderson, a negro, puts forth, under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution, an agreeable, and perhaps surprising, book for persons who have not yet made themselves acquainted with the large and thriving cities of the Mandrigoes—Zolu, Zow-Zow, Galaghee, Zegga Borrah Zue, Bokkasaw, and Fissahbac. Under the unpromising title of 'Sheridan's Troopers on the Borders,' Mr. De B. R. Keim gives us a well-written and vivacious account of experiences among the Indians, and it is hardly sufficient praise to say that he has gathered more new facts than Sheridan and his troopers have laurels from the last expedition on the Plains. In another work of entertaining travel, 'Across America and Asia,' Mr. Raphael Pumpelly gives a graphic account of his experiences among western savages of a different colour from those described by Mr. Keim. Among these white desperadoes he mentions one who carried about with him a trophy made of eighteen Indian ears, his ambition being to increase the string to twenty-five. Mr. Pumpelly evidently experienced great relief in passing over to Japan, and he not unnaturally exaggerates the merits of that country. The writer's accounts of his journeyings across China, Tartary, Siberia, and Eastern Russia are replete with interest. We hardly know where to mention Mr. Howell's charming 'Suburban Sketches,' but we suppose the book must be classified under Travel. Really it is one of the finest works upon Venetian life which we have read, and is the work of a poet as well as of a man

shrewd enough to be, we should think, as good a consul as President ever appointed to a congenial post.

Prof. Hurr, of Cornell University, adds another contribution to the records of the most important scientific expedition in South America since that of Humboldt. With his 'Geology and Physical Geography of Brazil,' as an appendix to the 'Scientific Results of a Journey in Brazil,' by Prof. Agassiz and his companions, the public is put in possession of details of the highest importance. It is impossible to do more than allude to these noble works, which stand as monuments of the munificence of a Boston gentleman, Mr. John Thayer, who suggested the expedition, and paid for it. Beyond these we do not find that the year has produced in America very much of importance to science. Prof. Winchell's 'Sketches of Creation' is a passably successful attempt to popularize the chief discoveries of modern science,—as successful, perhaps, as is likely to be made where men of science have to carry the "old man" of the theological sea on their shoulders. Prof. Bascom's 'Principles of Psychology' has the indirect value of showing how necessary a re-statement of the doctrine of innate ideas has become—if it is to be believed—under the attacks of Messrs. Mill and Bain. Prof. Bascom makes a feeble effort to rebuild, as an outwork against the utilitarian hordes (as he evidently thinks them), the theory that the idea of resemblance is intuitive, or "regulative"; and his only important answer to the utilitarian explanation of the sense of right and wrong is, that the feeling we have towards the violator of a fashion is different from that felt towards the violator of a moral rule. The utilitarian school will not be crushed, we suspect, by psychology as taught at Williams College,—not, at least, until Prof. Bascom remembers that the "intuitive" crimes of one time or place may become elsewhere "intuitive" virtues.

Two admirable works—'An Anglo-Saxon Grammar' and 'Anglo-Saxon Reader,' by Prof. March, of Lafayette College—show that the studies of a philological character carried on at a comparatively small American institution are not surpassed in thoroughness by those which we are accustomed to associate with the German Universities. Prof. March gives the correlatives of Anglo-Saxon words in Sanskrit, Greek, Latin, Old Freisic, Gothic, and the German dialects, and has produced an invaluable work for the comparative philologist. The Eliot Professor of Greek in Harvard University has produced an 'Elementary Greek Grammar,' which indicates careful work. The American Philological Society has twice recommended that what is called the "Continental system" of pronouncing Greek and Latin should be introduced in America; but the innovation will now for the first time enter Harvard with Prof. Goodwin's book, which pronounces *a* as *a* in father, and *η* as *e* in *fête*. The 'Dictionary of Byzantine Greek,' by Prof. Sophocles, and Mr. Short's treatise on 'The Order of Words in Attic Greek Prose,' are works creditable to American philology.

In Poetry, the most important work before us is a translation of Homer's *Iliad*, by the venerable W. C. Bryant. We can only say here, that the rendering is faultless as a translation, and in simple and dignified English. Mr. Bayard Taylor's translation of 'Faust' is

valuable, from his fine knowledge of German idioms; but it may be questioned whether he has either the fire or the perception of the inner workings of human nature to satisfy the students of Goethe's drama. Of original poems two only seem to be of much importance,—James Russell Lowell's 'Cathedral,' instinct with subtle life and thought, and Whittier's 'Miriam, and other Poems.' The Quaker poet has evidently carried into the leafy solitudes around Amesbury the sweeter solitude of a tranquil mind, which finds that

Everywhere the spirit walks
The garden of the heart, and talks
With man as under Eden's trees
In all its varied languages.

To a certain extent Whittier is a Hawthorne writing in verse: for the rest, he is the finest religious poet in America.

Among religious works there are several of importance. In 'The Primeval World of Hebrew Tradition,' by the Rev. F. D. Hedge, D.D., we have the work of an incisive critic and learned man. The important position in the Divinity School at Harvard occupied by the author, suggests that one wing of the Unitarian Church in America tends in the direction of German rationalism. While Dr. Hedge, carrying out boldly the suggestions of Ewald in his 'History of Israel,' sees in Genesis a consistent mythology, there runs through his work the thread of transcendental thought, which seems to link, each to each, the phases of religious thought in America. Although we can imagine that the Rev. Cotton Mather, President of Harvard University, would in his day, when declaring that if the belief in witches fell, there was nothing short of general infidelity, have been aghast at the idea of a Professor in the school, trained for the education of Puritan preachers, maintaining that "in man, above all created natures, the Creator realizes his Godhead," we doubt whether the old enemy of the witches carried with him so much of reverence as his latest successor.

The 'Cyclopædia of Biblical, Ecclesiastical, and Theological Literature' is a work reflecting credit on American scholarship. Dr. McClinton, who has done so much to raise the standard of culture in the Methodist denomination, lived only to complete this noble work, which will to many a student bring, for the first time, the knowledge that a great man had long been sitting at a task whose completion will answer a pressing need. We do not find in the publications of the American Unitarian Association much light upon the religious problems which occasioned its formation. Dr. James Freeman Clarke's 'Steps to Belief' is a somewhat naïve invitation to the orthodox world to meet the Unitarians upon the doctrine of the divinity of Christ, so that they may all revolve harmoniously around it. The Rev. George H. Hepworth's 'Rocks and Shoals,' with a great show of zeal in pointing out the moral dangers of a great city, reveals a lamentable incapacity to recognize either their causes or cures. The Rev. Henry Ward Beecher's 'Sermons' and his 'Lecture-Room Talks' show that what is known as Muscular Christianity is having its development out of the old Puritan stem. These discourses are often verbose and sometimes vulgar, but they are the productions of a large and warm heart and of a poetic temperament. We cannot say so much for the Rev. Mr.

Murray's 'Discourses, delivered in the Boston Music Hall,' which Theodore Parker has made famous, as they seem to us to lack simplicity and earnestness; nor of 'Sermons,' by Charles Wadsworth, delivered in Calvary Church, San Francisco, though we recognize in these an earnestness and ability from which, were it directed to ends more real than the acceptance of a dogmatic belief, much good might be expected among the youth of California.

'Modern American Spiritualism,' by Emma Hardinge, will be found by those interested in the phenomena of religious epidemics to be curious and instructive, though one cannot but think the writer's enthusiasm has greatly magnified the spread of Spiritualism.—'The History of American Socialisms,' by John Humphrey Noyes, is a disappointing book, consisting chiefly of "Brother Noyes's" Scrap Book, and far less comprehensive than Mr. Hepworth Dixon's works on the same subject. One cannot help noting how large a proportion of these movements in America originated in the Old World; Fourier and Owen being the sources of nearly all of the fourscore experiments mentioned in this volume.

Among Novels, we must note first of all Miss Louisa Alcott's 'Little Women' and 'The Old-fashioned Girl,' works full of drollery, pathos, and power; meant for the young, but pleasant also to the old.—'Hedged In,' by Mrs. Phelps, is a story of some impressiveness, dealing very tenderly and religiously with a subject too often treated with meretricious sentiment—a woman's fall from virtue, and her restoration.—'We Girls,' by Mrs. Whitney, is a capital story for young people.

Among works of a miscellaneous character, the appearance of Mr. Emerson's 'Society and Solitude' constitutes, perhaps, the main feature of the year in America,—a work which needs no recommendation here. 'Among my Books,' by Mr. Lowell, abounds in rare felicities of criticism. In his essays on Shakspeare and Dryden, Mr. Lowell shows that to genius every subject is new. Mr. Greeley's 'Recollections of a Busy Life' is a production that brings before us the conditions of modern American life in a vigorous way, and contains sketches of life and character—notably one of Margaret Fuller—which are full of strong touches. Taken with this, Mr. Maverick's account of 'Henry J. Raymond, and the New York Press for Thirty Years,' puts us in possession of the most salient facts connected with American journalism. We must not omit to mention a work deserving of more extended criticism than we can allot to it here: in 'Art Thoughts' Mr. Jarves presents us with a work of varied and excellent criticism. 'The Nation,' by Mr. E. Mulford, is a study of much significance, embracing the foundations of civil society, and indicating much investigation and thought.

We have, of course, the usual number of humorous works, which America never fails to send us. A 'Comic History of the United States' is rather laborious reading. Two works from Mark Twain—'The Innocents Abroad' and 'The New Pilgrim's Progress'—represent real travels in the East, as they impressed one of the drollest of voyagers. But the palm must this year be awarded to Mr. Bret Harte, author of 'The Luck of Roaring Camp, and other Sketches.' This work consists of papers that originally appeared in the *Overland*

Monthly, published in California, of which Mr. Harte is the editor. They are not only full of real humour, but the pictures they present of life in California in early days have truth and character, as well as fun.

THEOLOGICAL BOOKS.

Luther in Worms und in Wittenberg, und die Erneuerung der Kirche in der Gegenwart. Von Dr. D. Schenkel. (Nutt.)

THE literary and religious activity of Prof. Schenkel must strike every one as surprising. Since the commencement of the Protestant-Verein especially, of which Society he is a prominent member, his labours to promote a new form of Christianity which shall repudiate doctrinal confessions, have been incessant. The present treatise owes its origin to the leading motive that animates his efforts in that direction. With a view to the renovation of the Church, he surveys Luther's struggles against hierarchical and papal despotism, holding him up as the foreshadower of a future free Church, in which the individual conscience may exercise its full rights untrammelled by external influences. Two periods are distinguished in Luther's work of reform. In the first, after incipient indistinctness and long uncertainty, the idea of a Church emancipated from theocratic obscurities and hierarchical impurities, floated before his mind,—a Church which should bring out and express the essence of Christianity in its original power. In the second period, Luther's faith in this ideal was shaken. That which had once presented itself to his soul never assumed flesh and blood; the Church received a character essentially different from his original conception of what it should be. It became an institution of the State, in which confessions, pastors, and consistories were the dominant element, to the exclusion of the laity. Agreeably to these sentiments, Dr. Schenkel's aim is to set forth Luther's ideas in the years 1519–1522, regarding them as the germ or principle whence a renovated Church should be developed. The author is opposed to clerical, episcopal, and papal pretensions, believing them to be inimical to religious freedom. The work is well written. Its style is partly descriptive, partly rhetorical; intermediate between a sermon and a dissertation, and tending to diffuseness. The points, however, in Luther's career and belief which bear upon the general object, are well selected; so that the reader's interest is awakened. Whether Luther had so clear a perception of the principle attributed to him as Schenkel would show, is doubtful. We think the reformer is credited with more than can be fairly imputed to him, and he seems *pressed*, as it were, into the service for which he is used. The book deserves perusal, because it advocates the fresh and pure atmosphere of liberty,—liberty of thought and action in a Church emancipated from the trammels of ages,—though the liberty contended for seems an unpractical thing, far away in the dim future: it will be long before the Church of a nation lays aside a doctrinal for a moral basis, substituting faith in Christ for faith in dogma. The contents of the book are distributed under fourteen heads. Though Dr. Schenkel's own ideas appear throughout, more especially in the concluding section, the Reformer is also exhibited in the great lineaments of a character thoroughly human, yet unselfishly spiritual, strong in resolve and action, but defective in speculative ability.

The Shepherd of Hermas. Translated into English, with an Introduction and Notes. By Charles H. Hoole, M.A. (Rivingtons.)

THIS translation of 'The Shepherd of Hermas' is the first made from the Greek original, as edited by Prof. Hilgenfeld. In it Mr. Hoole has given an excellent representation of the original. The version is faithful, reads well, and may therefore be commended to the attention of all who are interested in early patristic literature. The translator has prefixed an introduction of thirty-one pages, and added notes at the close, which are creditable to his learning and judgment. Writing as he does

for English readers, not for scholars, he treats of the various questions connected with the work in a popular style. He does not discuss the theology, which is in reality the most important topic of the whole. In treating of the date, he is inclined to put it from 90 to 110 A.D., which is too early. That assigned by the Muratorian Canon is nearer the truth, viz., between 139–155 A.D., although there is no good reason for supposing the author to have been Hermas, brother of Pius I. Neither this Hermas, nor the apostolic one (Romans, xvi. 14) was the writer, who lived in Rome, where he meditated on the state of the Church, which had degenerated since its first freshness, and gave expression to his mystic views in the visions and similitudes of the book. Whoever he was, the contents show him to have been a Jewish-Christian of Montanistic proclivities; a layman, not a cleric. In his time, the sharp differences between the Jewish Christians and what was subsequently called the Catholic Church had disappeared at Rome, so that his Judaic Christianity approaches the type of belief which was afterwards orthodox. But it is very doubtful whether Hermas may claim to be considered perfectly orthodox, with one or two minor exceptions, as Mr. Hoole supposes. His Christology is not orthodox, though it is not Ebionitic. The pre-existence of Christ is asserted. The Son of God was manifested in flesh. He was prior to all creatures, and took part in the work of Creation. The doctrine of the Trinity seems to have been unknown to the author. In one passage, the Son is identified with the Holy Spirit; but the place is suspicious. Hermas's doctrine of faith is not the Pauline one. Indeed, he never speaks of faith in Christ, but in God. And the efficacy attributed to baptism is magical. On the whole, his conceptions are more Judaic than Pauline; and, if the latter be taken as the typically orthodox, Hermas is certainly heretical. As the doctrines of the Catholic Church were not developed in his days, it would be unjust to require of him what he did not profess to give, a confession of faith. Questions of morals and discipline, not of doctrine, engaged his attention. We must refer, however, to Lipin's able discussion of the Shepherd in Hilgenfeld's 'Zeitschrift,' which is much more satisfactory than the English works specified by Mr. Hoole.

METRICAL ROMANCES.

Siegfriedbilder beschrieben und erklärt. Von Prof. Carl Säve. Aus dem Schwedischen übersetzt und mit Nachträgen versehen von J. Meistorf. (Hamburg, Meissner.)

Die moderne Nibelungendichtung. Von Dr. G. R. Röpe. (Hamburg, Meissner.)

Christi Leben und Lehre besungen von Otfried. Aus dem Althochdeutschen übersetzt von Johann Kelle. (Prag, Tempsky.)

PROF. SÄVE's work is of great antiquarian importance, as it opens a new method of investigating the old traditions of the North, hitherto neglected. He has proved that two runic inscriptions, with sculptured figures, in the province of Södermanland, in Sweden, describe passages of the famous mythical hero, Sigurd Fafnirbani, as related in the older Edda. This discovery is doubly valuable, both as affording the first direct proof that these traditions were current in Sweden as well as the other Northern lands, and as illustrating the traditions themselves. For the details of the explanation of the often obscure inscriptions and figures the reader must be referred to the work itself.

Dr. Röpe's criticisms on the modern attempts to revive the interest in the traditions preserved in the Nibelungenlied and the Scandinavian epics and sagas, which treat of the same subject, deserve the attention of all who take an interest in those traditions, or in modern German literature generally. Dr. Röpe first gives an account of the old German poem, and remarks on the high poetic value of the story, and the imperfect form in which it has come down to us, and then proceeds to give an account of the modern poets who have handled the legends. He justly blames Heibel for attempt-

ing to dramatize the whole epic, thereby destroying the dramatic unity of his work, and reducing it to an epic divided into a series of scenes, while with equal propriety he praises Geibel's judgment in selecting a single episode from the various incidents of the poem. Dr. Röpe's most favourable criticisms are reserved for Wilhelm Jordan, the first modern poet who has treated the subject in an epic form. He compares the impression made on him by Jordan's 'Nibelunge' to the feelings of a connoisseur, who, after cleaning and restoring an old picture, suddenly perceives that he has in his hands a masterpiece of Raphael. In Dr. Röpe's opinion, not only has Jordan interpreted and recast the old traditions in the most perfect manner, but has also shown the highest artistic excellence both in matter and form. An interesting feature of Jordan's poetry is his revival of the old alliterative metre. Dr. Röpe thinks he has completely succeeded in his daring experiment, and that there can be no doubt that the question as to which is the right metre for the modern German epic is finally settled. Certainly no unprejudiced critic can deny that, as handled by Jordan, this metre contrasts favourably, by its strength, harmony and rich variety, with the monotonous and spasmodic contortions of the modern hexameter.

Dr. Johann Kelle has obtained deserved reputation in Germany both in general Teutonic philology, as shown in his 'Comparative Grammar of the Teutonic Languages,' a work which unhappily has not progressed beyond the first volume, and specially by his elaborate edition of Otfrid's celebrated poem on the Life of Christ. The translation is strictly literal, being intended to serve purely philological, as well as literary and antiquarian, purposes; it is, as the author says, a sort of running commentary on the original, available for the use of beginners, who cannot understand the difficult and often obscure language of Otfrid merely by the help of the dictionary, but require some intermediate aids. It is satisfactory to observe that Dr. Kelle has devoted many years of his life to the study and elucidation of Otfrid, without falling into those exaggerated estimates of his literary merit to which students of special authors are so liable; his tone is cautious, and he lays chief stress on the antiquarian and philological value of the poem. Certainly Otfrid's poetical genius was not of a high order. The narrative passages are dry and unpicturesque, and disfigured by prosaic and superfluous additions, such as "thus tell us the books," "so says the Gospel," and the long moral reflections introduced from time to time break the continuity and destroy the epic effect of the whole, and are in themselves generally tedious and pedantic. Otfrid evidently had difficulties with the rhyme, at that time a novel element in German versification; hence the frequent addition of superfluous words and unmeaning expletives and periphrases, and a general tendency to clumsiness and obscurity of expression, further increased by his unlucky idea of imitating the niceties of Latin syntax. Dr. Kelle's translation is in the four-accent metre of the original, the rhymes being omitted as incompatible with literalness. One of the redeeming points of Otfrid's poetry—the harmony of the language—is of course lost in a translation into modern German—the harshest of all modern Teutonic languages; but the traces of poetic inspiration which appear in such passages as the praise of the Franks and their king, and the comparison of earthly life with that of an exile in a strange land, are not entirely lost in a translation. The following lines from the latter piece will give to those, who are acquainted with the original, a favourable idea of the skillful way in which the translator has combined fidelity and elegance:—

Mühselig schleppen die sich fort,
Die leben fern vom Vaterland.
Ich hab's erfahren selbst an mir,
Ich fand nichts Gutes je an dir,
Nichts fand an dir ich anders je,
Als ein Germüth zerschlagen ganz,
Ein Herz erfüllt von Traurigkeit,
Und Schmerzen ohne Mass und Zahl.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Modern Men of Letters Honestly Criticized. By J. H. Friswell. (Hodder & Stoughton.)

MR. FRISWELL justifies the qualifying adverb in his title by a quotation from this journal, on which he founds a theory, that modern criticism is, for the most part, dishonest; being biased by personal, literary or other considerations. So he gives us some specimens of the right sort of criticism, of which we can only say that they are (to reverse the usual order of the epithets) honest, but poor. Not only is there no real depth in them, or appreciation of the authors whom he criticizes, but they are disfigured throughout by instances of carelessness which would mar writing in which there was more real worth. For instance, a critic of Tennyson who tells us that 'The Princess' is pervaded with a "Book of Beauty" flavour; that 'Maud' "has in it more passion of the kind felt by the Baker Street and Westbourne Grove classes" (what can this mean?) "than any other of his poems,"—who can call the author of 'Morte d'Arthur' and 'Guinevere' only "sugar-sweet, pretty-pretty, full of womanly talk and feminine stuff," should at least take the trouble to read further than the table of contents before offering his opinions. If space permitted, we, who have read through Mr. Friswell's book, should like to criticize our "honest critic" more in detail. Let a few instances of his carelessness suffice: of Dickens he tells us that 'Barnaby Rudge' is at the head of historical novels, having in the sentence before instanced a defect in this very point; and within the compass of two pages he severely criticizes certain inapt quotations in his speeches, and tells us that as a speech-maker no one surpassed him—"he always said the right thing in the right place, and said it very happily." In matters of fact he is no better: Mr. Ruskin is Professor of Art at Oxford—not Cambridge (page 100); from 1828 to 1869 is forty-one—not thirty-one years (page 248); Mr. Robertson, if born in 1839, could hardly have produced a piece at the Olympic in 1851 (page 349). Neither is it correct to say "like those fish-women did," or "like we have laughed"; *raffolent* is a third person plural, not an adjective; 'Hiawatha' is in trochaic, not iambic verse. But we must leave Mr. Friswell to do his own errata. If he will apply to us, we can help him to as many more as we have noted already; and we hope that when a new edition of his book is called for he will do them "honestly."

Essays of an Optimist. By J. W. Kaye. (Smith, Elder & Co.)

THESE ESSAYS, as far as they have any general drift, may be said to have that which their name would imply—that, namely, of considering the better side of various ordinary conditions or circumstances. They are the essays of a man of education and taste, with some share of original thought; and though they are in no way striking, at the same time they give the pleasure that everybody feels on seeing ideas—some his own already, a few new to him—put in neat language and well-turned sentences. As may be imagined, a book of this kind is not one to extract from to any large extent; but we may quote one passage, in which Mr. Kaye remarks upon a fact of human nature, which we know of our own observation to be perfectly true, which we do not remember to have seen noticed before: it is in the Essay 'On Growing Old':—"We talk of the simplicity, the singleness, the transparent truth of boyhood; but there are no such arrant impostors as boys. They go through all sorts of penances—martyrdoms almost—just for the sake of appearances. . . . What would induce us, in later life, to go through such self-incurred punishments?" If not the founder of this heresy about the sincerity and truthfulness of boyhood, Mr. Kaye is, as far as we know, the first moralist who has had the courage to proclaim it.

Mary Lyon: Recollections of a Noble Woman. By Fidelia Fiske. (Morgan, Chase & Scott.)

MARY LYON was a religious, conscientious, and useful person, but scarcely the woman to whom even her warmest admirers are justified in applying

the epithet "noble." Born in 1797, she spent her days in the faithful discharge of the duties of a schoolmistress for girls of a rather lowly degree. That she was a zealous worker in her vocation, and by moral goodness rather than extraordinary mental force exercised a very beneficial influence over her Transatlantic scholars, the present memoir furnishes abundant evidence: and Miss Fidelia Fiske, who has already followed her beloved preceptor to the unknown world, did not waste her time in producing this record of feminine piety and dutifulness.

The Diary of Nannette Dampier, during the Years 1664-1666. Written by her in the French Language, and now Translated into English. By Anna Jane Buckland. (Edinburgh, Johnstone, Hunter & Co.)

MISS BUCKLAND has wasted a few weeks, which she might perhaps have spent more unprofitably, in producing one of those fictitious diaries for which there was a transient fashion some years since. The work contains no indications that the author has more than a school-girl's acquaintance with the period in which Nannette Dampier is supposed to have lived: and the imaginary Nannette is about as stupid and frivolous a young person as we have ever encountered in fiction-land. Of course Nannette is the daughter of a Royalist officer, and has a Puritan uncle, whose ward she becomes on her papa's death in a deed; and of course she spends some of her spare time in "distilling the essence from sweet lavender blossoms." The heroines of the narratives, of which the present Diary is a very unfavourable specimen, are always sorting herbs and making sweet waters. After receiving religion from her precise uncle, Nannette marries his rich son, and concludes her diary with appropriate thankfulness for her good fortune. "I began my book at Wallcote Hall," observes the young wife, "and it is here I conclude it. Then I was an ignorant, foolish girl, alone in a world full of snares, which I was only too ready to rush into: now I have every blessing which my heart can desire, and a far better and higher lot than I could have pictured or wished for." Fortunately, there is no occasion for fear that the popularity of Miss Buckland's fabrication will revive a kind of literature that no ordinary skill can render entertaining or even endurable.

WE have on our table *The Order of Words in Attic Greek Prose*, by C. Short, M.A., LL.D. (Low),—*A Complete Dictionary to Caesar's 'Gallic War'*, by A. Creak (Hodder & Stoughton),—*Fairy Tales and Fables in Short Words*, by Miss Crompton (Gardner),—*The Invasion of France in 1814*, by MM. Erckmann - Chatrian (Smith & Elder),—*Light or Darkness? a Poem* (Smart & Allen),—*A Leaf from the Old Forest*, by J. D. Cossar (Smart & Allen),—and *Counsels to Young Students*, by C. J. Vaughan, D.D. (Macmillan).—Among New Editions we have *The Civil Service History of England*, by F. A. White, B.A. (Lockwood),—*Sybil; or, the Two Nations*, by the Right Hon. B. Disraeli (Longmans),—and *The Centenary Edition of the Waverley Novels*, Vol. XIII. 'The Pirate' (Black).

WE have also received the following Annuals: from Messrs. Letts, *The Pocket Diary*,—*The Rough Diary*,—*The Housekeeper*,—*The Bills-Due Book*, No. 9,—*The Tablet Diary*,—*The Broad Shilling Diary*,—*The Sixpenny Diary*, No. 17,—*The Skilling Office Calendar*,—*The Card Case Almanac*; and from Messrs. Gordon & Gotch, *The Australian Handbook and Almanac*.

THE London Stereoscopic Company send us their *Christmas Box of Scientific and Amusing Novelties*, which contains the Protean Cabinet, the Chameleon Gyroscope, the Magic Box of Beauty, the New Patent Drinking Flask, the Dial Cyphergraph, the Borean Paradox, the Wonderful Tub, the Italian Problem, and Twelve Designs by George Cruikshank for the Wheel of Life.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Theology.

Arnold's (M.) St. Paul and Protestantism, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 4/6
Bullock's Earthly Stories with Heavenly Meanings, 2/6 cl.

Church Sunday School Magazine, Vol. 6, 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Footsteps of the Holy Child, ed. by Carter, Pts. 1 & 2, in 1 vol. 4/6
Judson's (Dr. A.) Life, by H. Bonar, D.D., cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.
Macmillan's Bible Teachings in Nature, 5th ed. cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Proby's Lessons on the Kingdom, for the Little Ones, &c. 1/6
Scaramelli's Directorium Aestheticum, Vol. 3, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Stepping Heavenward, by A. of Flower of the Family, 12mo. 2/6
Thomson's The Four Evangelists, &c., new edit. cr. 8vo. 2/ cl.
Vaughan's (C. J.) Counsels to Young Students, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Wadsworth's (C.) Sermons, cr. 8vo. 4/ cl.

Law.

Fisher's Stamp Acts of 1870, 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Griffith's Pocket Digest of Stamp Duties, 12mo. 5/ cl.

Music.

Auber's Fra Diavolo, trans. by Macfarren, roy. 8vo. 2/6 swd.
Flotow's Maria (Boosey), roy. 8vo. 2/6 swd.

Poetry.

Ezekiel, and other Poems, by B. M., 3/6 cl.
Howitt's (Mary) Birds and Flowers, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Poems, by F. D. T., 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Swinnburne's Songs before Sunrise, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.

History.

Palmerston's (Viscount) Life, by Bulwer, new edit. 2 vols. 30/
Reed's (Dr. M.) Manual of Systematic History, cr. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Taylor's (M.) Student's Manual of History of India, cr. 8vo. 7/6

Geography.

Collins's Academic Atlas, by Bartholomew, imp. 4to. 5/ cl.
Johnston's Half-Crown Atlas of British History, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Philology.

Cicero's Orations against Catiline, with Halm's German Notes,
translated by Wilkins, 12mo. 3/6 cl.
Dann and Gonzalez's Spanish Commercial Correspondence, 3/
Homer's Odyssey, Books I.—XII., with Notes, &c. by Merry, 4/6
Nugent's French & English Dictionary, by Brown & Martin, 2/6
White's (R. G.) Words and their Uses, Past and Present, 10/

Science.

Entomologist's (The) Annual, 1871, 12mo. 2/6 bds.
Hardwicke's Science Gossip, ed. by Cooke, Vol. 6, roy. 8vo. 5/ cl.

General Literature.

Alice Leigh's Mission, 18mo. 1/6 cl.
A. L. O. E.'s Picture Story Book, 4to. 2/6 bds.
Beverly's Romantic Tales from English History, new edit. 3/6
Boyle's Court Guide for January, 1871, 12mo. 5/ cl.
British Imperial Calendar, &c. 1871, 12mo. 5/ bds.
Carrie Williams and her Scholars, by A. R. W., 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Cottage on the Shore, &c. 1/6 cl.
Country Gentleman's Magazine, Vol. 5, roy. 8vo. 7/6 cl.
Cupple's Story of Our Doll, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Evenings at the Tea-Table, 3/6 cl.
Fenton's A Wicked Woman, cheap ed. cr. 8vo. 2/ bds.
Gilbert's (W.) Martha, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.
Golden Words, a Selection of Eloquent Extracts, new edit. 3/6
Greene's (Hon. Mrs.) Grey Hill on the Hill, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Gutch's Register and Almanack, 1871, 32mo. 3/6 roan.
Home (The) Visitor, Vol. 1, 3rd series, 1870, 8vo. 2/ cl.
Judd's Margaret, a Tale of the Real and Ideal, &c. cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.
Ladies (The) Treasury, Vol. 9, new series, roy. 8vo. 5/6 cl.
Letters on the War between Germany and France, by Mommsen,
Strauss, Max Müller, &c., cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.
McCulloch's Dictionary of Commerce, by Reid, new ed. 8vo. 6/3
Martin's Statesman's Year Book for 1871, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Melville's (Whyte) Good for Nothing, new edit. 12mo. 2/ bds.
Melville's (Whyte) The Queen's Maids, new edit. 12mo. 2/ bds.
Month (The), Vol. 13, 8vo. 2/ cl.
Old Merry's Travels on the Continent, new edit. 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Once a Week, new series, Vol. 6, Aug. to Dec. 1870, roy. 8vo. 6/
Pearl (The) of Story Books, 12mo. 2/6 cl.
Peat's Farmer's Diary, 1871, 4to. 5/ hf. bd.
Rowing Almanack and Oarsman's Companion, 1871, 32mo. 1/
Royal (The) Calendar, &c., for 1871, 12mo. 5/ bds.
Scott's (Sir W.) Miscellaneous Works, Vols. 29 and 30, 'Demon-
ology,' and 'Discourses,' &c. 12mo. 3/6 each, Roxburgh.
Scott's Waverley Novels, Centenary Edit. Vol. 13, 'Pirate,' 3/6
Taylor's (Bayard) Joseph and his Friend, cr. 8vo. 10/6 cl.
Tourgneffe's On the Eve, trans. by C. E. Turner, 12mo. 4/6 cl.
War (The) Correspondence of the Daily News, 1870, cr. 8vo. 7/6
Webster's Royal Red Book for Jan., 1871, cr. 8vo. 5/ cl.

PARIS AND THE WAR.
(Par Ballon Mont.)

Paris, Dec. 26, 1870.

THE first volume of the Papers and Correspondence of the Imperial Family has been completed, with fac-similes of certain letters which have more scandalous than political interest. The conduct of Louis Napoleon is certainly an element in the conflict between Imperialism and Republicanism; but the publication would have been better occupied by other documents than those which relate to disgraceful personal adventures.

No. 17, which commences Vol. II., contains two letters, with fac-similes, written by Josephine Bonaparte to M. Botot, Secretary to Barras, sent to Louis Napoleon by the son of Botot, a few months since, which are of very little interest. There are two documents in the number which throw great light on the working of the Imperial system; the former consists of Notes respecting the Prefects of the Republic, drawn up between July and October, 1852. The entry respecting M. Haussmann will be read with interest: it runs as follows: "M. Haussmann is an intelligent and capable administrator, and loyal, devoted to the chief of the State; but the roughness of his manners procures him little sympathy. He has filled successively in the same department of the Gironde

the office of Councillor of the Prefecture, Sub-Prefect, and Prefect; this is evidently objectionable (*un inconvenient*). He is married into a family of the neighbourhood: some difficulties have arisen from this; there have also been some very unfortunate monetary transactions in the department which have injured his position. M. Haussmann is the man of M. Lagrange, who is as unpopular as a man can be in the Gironde. The Prefect partakes this unpopularity; he does not make friends for the Prince, but is, in fact, an obstacle for many who would rally round the Government. His situation, I have no hesitation in saying, is a bad one, although I am aware that the contrary view is maintained with vivacity. I doubt not that sooner or later it will be found necessary to remove M. Haussmann to another department. If M. de Saleau should quit Marseilles, M. Haussmann would make a good successor to him, and he might be advantageously replaced at Bordeaux by M. Dubessey or other popular man." The editors are not able to give the name of the author of these notes. Many of the other Prefects are treated in merciless style; but it must be remembered that the writers' standpoint was devotion to the coming Empire. The Notes will be read with great relish by the friends of the old Prefect.

A letter addressed to the Emperor in 1857 by M. de Buijn, Captain of Gendarmerie, at Aurillac (Cantal), is a very curious document. The Captain is an old soldier, who has seen much service, and was decorated, and wounded in the Crimea. He addresses the Emperor directly, complaining that he has duties imposed upon him by his Commandant which are utterly opposed to an imperial decree of the 1st of March, 1854, which says that in no case, either directly or indirectly, shall the *gendarmérie* be employed in secret (*occultes*) duties, which derogate from its true character. The orders he had received are thus quoted by him fully, in a second letter, as follows:—"To ascertain, and to cause the chiefs of brigade to ascertain, the number of Legitimists, Orlanists, Republicans, Socialists, &c., to watch their movements, *comings and goings*, *my relations*, acts and words, and to mention them in my report constantly." The italics are in the original. The writer, instead of an interview, received the following note from the "Cabinet of the Emperor":—"The first law of the military hierarchy is to obey without commentary, without unfortunate interpretation, the instructions received from superiors. It is not therefore without extreme surprise that the Emperor has received a request for an audience to discuss orders emanating from your chiefs. You designate those orders as *occultes*, a word which always carries with it an odious signification. You may receive confidential, but not occult, underhanded, orders. Therefore, far from granting the interview you ask for, his Majesty desires me to express his formal disapprobation."

The idea of *espionnage* being only confidential, not occult or underhanded, is vastly amusing. Capt. Buijn's conscientious ideas cost him his position, for in his second letter he says, in conclusion: "My dismissal from the *gendarmérie*, for having protested energetically, as I had good right to do, against an unmerited severity (suspension for one month), for no other offence than having quoted the regulation against the measures of low police, with which a commandant would have associated me; all this will produce an effect much to be regretted."

The same number contains a receipt, signed by M. de Forcade, for 500,000 francs received by him, on the Emperor's account, for secret expenses. This receipt bears date the 6th of April, 1869, a few days before the last general elections. It also contains a nice little arrangement between M. Clément Duvernois and M. Castels-Heunebert, respecting the formation of the Egyptian Maritime Company, by which the former gentleman was to receive for his services the comfortable sum of 200,000*l.*, and the promoters a like sum to be divided between them. It is well that those who have money to invest should be aware of the working of joint-stock companies; and such documents

as these afford valuable information, and account logically for the low rate of dividends.

The first instance of legitimate association for political purposes on a scale of any importance has just been announced: it is called "Association of the Defenders of the Republic," which has for its object "the maintenance towards and against all of the Republic as the definite form of government for France." "In the present crisis," says the declaration of the committee, "the Association declares itself in favour of war à outrance until the invaders are expelled." A committee of five members is named in each *arrondissement* of Paris, and its duty is to afford and receive information. Members must be introduced by two members of the committee of their quarter, who will report thereon to the central committee, with whom election depends. The subscription of each member to be half-a-franc a month. The committees will arrange private and public meetings for discussion. The departments are invited to form committees in connexion with those of Paris; in short, the scheme includes a complete organization of all the republicans in France. The list of the committees is published, and includes a large number of *maires* and other municipal officers, and many names of well-known republicans of all classes of society, with a moderate portion of the extreme party.

M. Vitet has addressed a third letter to the *Revue des Deux-Mondes*, in which he expresses his surprise and delight at the events of the past week, and records his firm conviction that France will succeed in her mission, as the American Government succeeded, whatever may be the difficulties to be overcome, or the suffering to be endured. The following are perhaps the most salient points in the letter in question:—"Que peut la force contre le droit, si le droit a du cœur, et s'il s'obstine à se défendre? Sur une partie du territoire, sur le quart, sur le tiers peut-être, sur la moitié, si vous voulez, la force triomphera, la force organisée, cet infernal et moderne mélange de science et de barbarie dont je sais trop bien la puissance; mais fut-elle cent fois encore et plus savante et plus barbare, si la justice n'est pas de son côté, ne craignez rien, son succès sera fragile; courage et patience, le droit l'emportera, si mal organisé, si mal servi qu'on le suppose. De cette vérité, ne l'oublions pas, mon cher monsieur; nous avons un garant que ne peut récuser la Prusse, la propre mère de ce monarque humanitaire, de ce pieux émule d'Attila, qui pousse en ce moment ses Huns sur nos cités en cendres et sur nos champs ensanglantés. Il vous souvient sans doute d'une admirable page écrite il y a trois mois, presque au début du siège, par l'éloquent prélat qui est lui-même, à cette heure, aux prises avec la guerre, lui disputant son troupeau; il nous révélait des paroles que la reine de Prusse, alors au plus profond de ses misères royales et des calamités de son peuple, écrivait en 1810, en parlant de Napoléon I^{er}: 'Cet homme tombera,' disait-elle; 'il n'agit pas selon les lois de Dieu, mais selon ses passions. Aveuglé par la bonne fortune, il est sans modération; et qui ne se modère pas perd nécessairement l'équilibre, et tombe... Je crois en Dieu, je ne crois pas à la force; la justice seule est stable.' Ces grands et sévères paroles, c'est à Versailles, c'est à son fils que la noble femme aujourd'hui les adresse; elles n'y seront pas comprises, je le sais, trop d'avance; mais l'heure viendra, et plus tôt qu'on ne croit, où, comme témoignage d'admiration et de respect, nous les graverons, ces paroles, sur les tables d'airain qui porteront la date de notre délivrance; ce qui fut prophète pour la Prusse le sera pour notre pays, puisque devant Dieu, comme devant les hommes, depuis Sedan, surtout depuis Ferrières, il est prouvé, et de toute évidence, que, dans cette horrible guerre, le droit est de notre côté."

M. Henri Rochefort has produced an edition of the numbers of the *Lanterne* published abroad, and prefaces it with an apology to the public for having been so gentle towards the late Empire, and immediately proceeds to atone for that error by such passages as the following: "The Empire never was a government. The odious *siesta* of drunkards, which lasted for twenty years in the first floor

of the Tuileries, never constituted a reign." *La Cloche*, half-brother to the *Lanterne* and the *Patrie en Danger*, has ceased to ring; it has tolled its own knell, or laid up its clapper till better times arrive; the Reds will not support their organs. The *Cloche* accused *Figaro* of having sold himself, and the latter now pays the other back in the following course—"Alas! we see now it was jealousy; *La Cloche* could not be sold!"

M. Boutteville, the author of a remarkable work, entitled '*La Morale de l'Eglise et la Morale Universelle*,' died last week. M. Boutteville was a highly accomplished writer, a determined opponent of the connexion of Church and State, and although a profound thinker and calm writer, sacrificed his position for his opinions; he was removed from a chair which he filled in the University, and afterwards from his Professorship at Sainte-Barbe. His claim to remembrance resides in his unflinching endeavours for the extension and improvement of education.

A short time since, M. Arsène Houssaye gave a reception in aid of the funds for the succour of the wounded, when a number of artists lent their aid, and several pieces of verse were recited; amongst the rest were verses à la *Charité*, from the practised pen of the host.

The theatres have recommenced their *soirées* and *matinées*, which are well attended; the object being charitable, and the rate of admission reasonable. Here, also, the recital of verses forms almost invariably part of the entertainment. At the Français, M. Coquelin gave with great effect a poem by M. Émile Bergerat, entitled the '*Maître d'Ecole*.'

M. Etienne Carjat addresses the following "irregular sonnet," as he himself terms it, to the marching companies of his battalion of the National Guard:—

Amis, le Réveil, si joyeux l'autre année,
Se fera cette nuit sous la voûte du ciel.
Adieu les chauds boudins qu'on mangeait par année,
Et le champagne bu, les chansons au gros sel!
La France, que les rois à mort ont condamnée,
Au cœur des citoyens fait un suprême appel;
Et les petits enfants, devant la cheminée,
Leur botte à la main, vont invoquer Noël.
L'hiver glace vos corps; mais au fond de votre âme
Couve, ardente toujours, l'incextinguible flamme
Qui, du froid de la mort, garde l'humanité;
Espérons et croyons: Assez d'esprit folâtre!
Dans nos soutiens, devant Chastuy mettra dans l'âtre
La victoire et la liberté!

Hyacinthe, whose comic talent and magnificent nose—his mother called him her *premier nez*—like all his brethren, is in the National Guard. He plays the triangle in the band of his battalion, and has been severely hurt,—a runaway horse dashed in amongst the music and wounded six of the band. For a member of a sedentary company, the unfortunate comedian has been peculiarly unlucky; but, then, he was *en marche* at the time, though within the walls. G. W. Y.

THE SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY.

PART II.

In our last article we endeavoured to show that it was necessary that officers should join their regiments qualified to enter at once on their duties. We urged that the best way of obtaining this result was to require as a qualification for a commission either service in the ranks or graduation at Sandhurst. We shall now consider how this scheme should be carried out. Let us take the case of a meritorious non-commissioned officer whom it is wished to reward with a commission. We have already remarked that in the present state of English society it is not desirable that the number of men promoted from the ranks should be large. Accepting, however, the fact that such promotions to a limited extent do, and will continue to take place, it is necessary to consider what qualifications should be required. These may be divided into two classes: one chiefly military, and the other social and educational. In one class are comprised courage, presence of mind, activity, punctuality, cleanliness, temperance, intelligence, subordination, and a talent for command. In the other class are to be found qualifications less easy to define. An officer, to secure the respect of his inferiors and the fellowship

of his equals, should possess more than solid and technical qualifications. His manners at worst must not be repulsive, and he must possess a certain tact, ability to write and speak grammatically, and a fair amount of general information. As to his military qualities, his manners, and his tact, the recommendation of his commanding officer should be a sufficient test. With regard to his education, an examination should be required. On this the question arises, of what nature should this examination be? should it be intended merely to test a man's knowledge of reading, writing, and elementary arithmetic? or should it be required to ascertain whether the examinee possesses a certain amount of mental culture? We are inclined to consider that the latter alternative lies within its province. Mental cultivation would secure the successful candidate the respect of his inferiors and a welcome from his future associates; would increase the dignity of a commission bestowed on a man from the ranks; and would be a proof that the recipient of the commission possessed other than mere routine qualifications for his new position; would show, indeed, that there was something in him. At present, many a steady, excellent, but, in aught but barrack-yard duties, stupid, sergeant becomes an officer. On the other hand, the number of smart, intelligent, but uncultivated men who obtain commissions is not smaller. We would propose that before a sergeant, whose military qualities point him out as deserving of a commission, should be promoted, he should pass the following examination: Arithmetic, practical geometry to the extent required in elementary fortification, English history and composition, geography, and practical fortification.

As to those who obtain commissions without passing through the ranks, we would suggest that, whether they receive their commissions with or without purchase, or whether purchase is or is not abolished, they should without exception pass through a military college. This military college should be conducted on a very different system from that which is at present pursued at Sandhurst, and should resemble in many particulars the one followed during the first few years after the establishment of that college. We should go on the principle that a fair general education ought to be obtained before commencing the technical training; but that to get a good man, and render military discipline and habits a second nature, he should be caught young. We would, therefore, limit the age of admission to from sixteen to eighteen, and the period of residence at the college to two years. All candidates for admission should be nominated by the commander-in-chief, and only a qualifying examination in the ordinary branches of a general English education should be undergone. This examination should include one, and not more than one, foreign language. As for competition, it may, though we doubt it, be desirable in examinations for Engineers; but we are very certain it is the ruin of every other service, including the army, which requires moral and physical more than mental qualities. In the army especially, what is required is not so much book-learning and theory, as a practical acquaintance with subjects, and a power of promptly making use of the knowledge possessed. We propose that the candidate, having passed his qualifying examination, and the doctor's inspection, should, as a cadet at a military college, undergo a two years' technical training, that of the last year being almost exclusively practical. The course of study should consist of either French or German, according as one or the other had been taken up at the entrance examination—as much mathematics as are required for practical fortification and surveying, the simplest principles of strategy, elementary, or what may be termed minor tactics, the elements of field fortification, and military drawing of an easy character.

So much for theory. As regards practical military training, we would suggest that the student should be taught gymnastics, riding, fencing, bayonet exercise, single-stick, the sword exercise, the method of throwing up field-works, constructing bridges, &c., the execution of rapid sketches, patrolling, the posting of piquets, and light-infantry and other

drill. He ought also to go through a complete course of rifle instruction, and be trained to act as sentry, corporal, and commander of a guard. In short, the object should be not to attain a very high educational standard, but to teach everything practically and thoroughly. We are of opinion that by not aiming at more than what the ordinary officer, under ordinary circumstances, would find requisite, thoroughness would take the place of the present desultory system of education, the result of which is a large amount of combined incapacity and pretension.

The cadet having left Sandhurst with a perfect knowledge of drill—including musketry-instruction—of riding, of minor tactics, the elements of fortification and military sketching, and one foreign language, he should be given, provisionally, the commission of ensign, not, however, carrying with it any pay. These ensigns, if there should be no immediate demand for their services, might be sent, according to the language they had passed in at Sandhurst, to either France or Germany under the charge of an experienced officer to each party. They should spend from three to six months on the Continent, perfecting themselves in colloquial knowledge of the language, visiting the camps, garrisons, fortresses, and sites of great battles, and studying the military history, institutions, geography, as well as the resources, climate, and means of transport of the country. The officer in charge should aid and direct them in their studies, and proof should be given, by means of a report of what they have learnt, and an essay on some great campaign and battle, all written in the language of the country, that time has not been wasted. The officer in charge would be responsible that no extravagance was committed, and that the conduct of his party was correct and creditable. Should he report badly of any one, or should any one show that he had wasted his time, his provisional commission should be withdrawn. On the other hand, if his conduct and application has been satisfactory, his commission should be confirmed, and he should be posted to a regiment. As an unpaid ensign, he should act as supernumerary on all duties until a vacancy occurred in the ranks of the lieutenants, when, if his commanding officer reported favourably of him, he should receive a lieutenant's commission and the usual pay. Should he be reported unfavourably on, he should either be passed over or his commission should be cancelled. From the time of his appointment as provisional ensign until the receipt of a lieutenant's commission, his uniform should be only undress, with unattached buttons and no facings. One soldier servant and one room per two ensigns should be allowed at the regiment. For his share of a servant the ensign should pay 1s. 6d. a-week, but the room should be properly furnished for him by Government. The rule should be strictly enforced that no subscriptions of any kind should be received from him, and undue expenditure at mess should be sternly checked by the commanding officer. As a rule, it would be sufficient to have two ensigns only attached at one time to a battalion. On active service, however, the number might be increased to ten. The commander-in-chief of an army in the field should have authority to grant provisional lieutenant's commissions, pending confirmation, to ensigns, in order to fill up vacancies occurring at the seat of war. Should there be suddenly a larger number of casualties than could be filled up from the posted ensigns of regiments, the authorities could fall back in the first place on the provisional ensigns, and in the second place on the cadets undergoing their last half-year's instruction at Sandhurst. By this means an adequate supply of men qualified at once to undertake the duties of a subaltern could be provided, with scarcely a shilling's extra expense to the Government.

The system with regard to a supply of cavalry officers should be similar to that laid down for infantry. After a cadet has passed one year at Sandhurst, he should, if desirous and qualified, be transferred to the cavalry troop of the college, and during the remaining year should be instructed in cavalry drill and stable duties. If, at the termination of his

course, still considered likely to become a good cavalry officer, he should receive provisionally the rank of Cornet, and be sent abroad, but under an officer of his own branch of the service, in the same manner and under the same conditions as a Provisional Ensign. If, however, after a probation with his regiment, he should not be deemed by the commanding officer likely to become a good cavalry officer, he should be granted, on his own application, a transfer to an infantry regiment, where he should serve as an ensign at least three months on probation before being eligible for promotion. We beg the reader to remark, that we have laid it down as a rule, that an ensign should act as a supernumerary on all duties. By this we mean that he should never be allowed to exercise any authority, save at drill, but should every four days accompany the orderly officer; should attend the payment of the men; should be present at every guard-mounting parade, and should periodically mount guard, accompanying the officer commanding the guard on all his duties. He should also attend daily in the orderly-room, and be present at every board and court-martial. In addition to this training, he should be attached, for one week, to the adjutant, in order to gain some knowledge of orderly-room routine; for the same time to the quarter-master, and to the paymaster. Before being considered qualified for promotion, he should also be able to perform the duties of a pay-sergeant. The cadet system, as practised in Austria and Prussia, and so strongly advocated by Col. Shute, could never be carried out in England, for social reasons; but we venture to submit that the scheme we have sketched out possesses all the advantages of the cadet system, and is at the same time such as could be practically and immediately carried out, without any appreciable expense to the State.

THE 'AIN ES-SHEFA, JERUSALEM.

THE following communication is from Dr. Chaplin, the active and learned surgeon of the Hospital in Jerusalem, who has taken charge of the works of the Palestine Exploration Fund since Capt. Warren left the Holy City:—

A few days ago I received a visit from Herr Victor zur Helle, of Vienna, who informed me that he had been able to enter the hitherto unexplored southern passage of the 'Ain es-Shefa, and had followed it to its termination, ninety-six feet from its commencement. He had lost his compass in the water, and consequently could not be certain of the exact direction of the passage, but believed it to be south-west. As the water is seldom so low as to admit of an examination of this canal, and the winter rains, which are now anxiously looked for, may soon close it again, I took the earliest opportunity of descending, and the following are the notes of my observations.—

The descent was made on the 29th of November, 1870. The passage commences at the southern end of the western wall of the basin. It runs 43 feet 6 inches in a direction S. 84 W., 13 feet 5 inches S. 80 W., 5 feet 4 inches S. 1 W., 12 feet 6 inches S. 65 W., and, lastly, 27 feet 6 inches S. 4 E., its entire length being about 102 feet. At its termination it is blocked up by fallen, or most irregularly constructed, masonry, and has no basin. A stick could be thrust in under the blocks of stone for about three feet, but no continuation of the passage could be made out. The floor slopes towards each end, the highest part being about the middle. At the entrance, and for some 20 feet beyond, the water was a little over knee-deep; towards the middle the passage was nearly dry, and at the further extremity the water reached 6 or 8 inches above the knees. The canal is 4 feet high and 3 feet broad at the entrance, and of about the same dimensions throughout, except where narrowed by fallen masonry, or widened or made higher by the disappearance of the walls or roof. Only at one spot was there any difficulty in passing. The walls are of rough masonry, some of the stones being of large size. The roof, where perfect, is of thick broad blocks of limestone, laid across. No arches, columns, or ornamented stones were observed. The rock could not be detected anywhere, though it is possible

that it may in some places form the floor. Plaster still covers portions of the sides and floor, but the passage is in a very ruinous condition. Water was observed trickling down from between the stones of the southern wall, at a spot not far from the entrance, and the sides and roof were in some places very wet, in others nearly dry. No appearance of a fountain was discovered, though carefully searched for.

Advantage was taken of the low state of the water to examine the basin somewhat more minutely than has (I believe) hitherto been possible. It was found to measure, from north to south, in the middle, 11 feet 9 inches; from east to west, in the middle, 6 feet 6 inches; from east to west, opposite the entrance to the lower passage, 5 feet 10 inches. The floor is of rock at the northern part: how far the rock extends to the south could not be ascertained, in consequence of the depth of the water. The walls are everywhere of rough irregular masonry. Plaster still remains on the northern and southern sides; that on the latter being continuous with that of the lower passage. The plastered surface on the northern side extends farther to the east and west than the side-walls which abut upon it. The plaster is made with small white stones, instead of the usual pounded pottery. Water was trickling in a rather copious stream from under the masonry on the east side of the northern passage at its termination, and it was observed that here the masonry rests upon plaster, from between which and the stones the water was running. Further north, also in this passage, the walls rest upon a plastered surface.

It can hardly, perhaps, be said that the mystery which has attached to this remarkable well is even now entirely removed; yet every fresh observation tends to confirm the opinion that *its water is derived solely from the percolation of the rains through the debris upon which the city is built*. There is no evidence to show that it proceeded originally from a subterranean source; and it is not likely that, if a fountain had existed here in ancient times, it could have escaped mention by either the sacred or profane writers. Probably there was formerly a pool near this situation, into which the water coming down the valley (which drains a large extent of surface) was carefully conducted. After the destruction of the city and the consequent filling up of the pool, the water would still find its way down to the same spot, and either well up to the surface or be reached by means of a shaft. As the level of the city continued to rise, a longer shaft would be required, and thus in the course of ages what was at first a superficial collection of water would become converted into a deep well.

THO. CHAPLIN, M.D.

P.S. Readers of the *Athenæum* may be interested by the intelligence that the great reservoir in the Haram area is being repaired by the Turkish authorities.

Literary Gossip.

WE understand that Mr. Alfred Austin, author of 'The Season,' will shortly bring out a new satire, entitled 'The Golden Age.'

WE learn that a sketch of Scotland in the sixteenth century, which appears in the current number of *Fraser's Magazine*, is the first two chapters of a history of that country, from the Battle of Flodden to the Revolution of 1688, by Mr. A. Falconer: the first volume of which will appear in a few months.

MR. MACLEOD has resumed the publication of his 'Dictionary of Political Economy,' which was interrupted by his appointment under the Digest of Law Commission. Part 8 is in the press.

THE Chaucer Society has in the press the first part of a parallel-text edition of Chaucer's minor poems. Of the earliest of these, 'The Dethe of Blanche the Duchesse,' A.D. 1369,

only three MSS. are known, and as one of these is merely a copy of another, Thynne's text of 1532 will be reprinted instead of this copy, especially as Thynne supplies the line missing in the MSS. Of Chaucer's second poem, 'The Parliement of Foules,' at least seven MSS. are known; and of these six will probably be printed by the Chaucer Society. 'The Complaynt of Mars' and 'The Dethe of Pite' will each be printed from three MSS. The minor poems have never yet been edited from a collation of more than two MSS.

A BRIEF History of Cork, by Mr. John George MacCarthy, of that city, the circulation of which is almost altogether—though undeservedly—local, has reached a third edition. A work of a more ambitious kind on the same subject, by Miss Cusack, is announced.

MR. BOND has, we are glad to hear, secured for the nation, at a very small cost, the unique MS., 'Pylgrymage of Syr Rycharde Torkyngton to Jerusalem in 1517.' The MS. contains a very interesting account of Venice, and of the ceremony of the Doge wedding the sea. Quoted in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for October, 1812, and in Fosbrooke's 'British Monachism,' the MS. had passed out of sight, till it turned up in the sale of the late Mr. R. Bell Wheeler's effects at Messrs. Sotheby's. It will be edited for the Early English Text Society by Mr. F. J. Furnivall, together with a fuller copy of William Wey's *Pilgrimage* (1458—1462) than the Roxburghe Club published, and with a reprint of an old black-letter tract on the same subject, 'Informacion for Pylgrymes unto the Holy Londe,' that has been also reproduced by the Roxburghe Club.

WE stated a few weeks ago that Mr. Heraud, the author of 'The Ingathering,' was engaged in a poem on the subject of the present war, to be called 'The War of Ideas.' We now understand that the poem is finished, and will shortly appear.

ACCORDING to Dr. Delitzsch, in his Hebrew translation of St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans (page 40) Dr. Brugsch has had the good fortune to find several leaves belonging to the Curetonian Syriac version, in Cairo. If this information be correct, it will gratify many scholars.

THE late Tross sale, caused by the war, is to be followed by another sale of rare printed books and manuscripts from the collection of M. Bachelin-Deflorenne at Messrs. Sotheby's, on the 11th of January. The MSS. begin with a Breviary of St. Jerome of the ninth or tenth century, and include the beautiful Book of Hours of Queen Anne of Brittany, and several good specimens of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Among the printed books are the unique copy on vellum of Lacroix and Seré's 'Moyen Age et la Renaissance,' W. Copland's edition of the Boke of Surveinge (1548—60), and many rare and finely-bound foreign volumes. A curious book of feather-work and some quaint Japanese paintings are also in the sale.

By permission of the Council of the Royal Society of Literature, a meeting was lately held in their rooms, at which it was resolved to form a Society, having for its object the investigation of the archaeology, history and chronology of Ancient and Modern Assyria, Palestine, Egypt, Arabia, and other Biblical lands; the promotion

of the study of the antiquities of those countries, and the preservation of a continuous record of discoveries now or hereafter to be in progress. Dr. Birch, of the British Museum, took the chair; supported by Messrs. Bonomi, J. Smith, Mills, &c. It was resolved to call the society the Society of Biblical Archæology.

MR. FREY, of Bristol, is engaged, we understand, in making a collection of the several provincial words used by Tyndale, in an exceedingly rare edition of the great Reformer's New Testament, printed in the year 1534 or 1535. This edition is supposed to have been printed at Antwerp at the time when Tyndale was in prison at Vilvorde, and is remarkable for containing such words as the following: *faether, moether, broether, maester, stoene, oones, those, sayede, whorse* (for worse), *behoelde*, &c. From the spelling of these words, it is thought that Tyndale issued this edition expressly for the use of the ploughboys and husbandmen of Gloucestershire; and in furtherance of the resolve expressed by him at the commencement of his career, when disputing with a bigoted priest, he said—"If God spare my life, ere many years I will cause a boy that driveth the plough to know more of the Scripture than you do!"

As mentioned in our first article, it is sixty years since Sir Walter Scott made that purchase of land which was the beginning of the estate of Abbotsford. Perhaps we may be allowed to recall the fact that it was in the pages of this journal that it was first suggested that Abbotsford should be purchased by the nation for the benefit of his descendants.

HERR TEUFFEL has completed his excellent history of Roman literature. M. Keller and Holder have published the last part of the second volume of their *Horace*; the recension of the text is thus complete. The third volume will contain the prolegomena.

PROF. LANGE, of Giessen, whose work on Roman antiquities is well known, has received an invitation (*Ruf*) to Leipzig, which he has accepted.

THE fourth volume of Dr. Karl Prantl's great work on the 'History of Logic in the West' has been published. The 'History' was commenced in 1855, fifteen years ago, and the part now before us only reaches to the first thirty years of the sixteenth century. In it the spread and development of the doctrines of Ockham are examined; and the disputes of his followers with those who wished to maintain the ancient ideas are well described.

THE first two volumes have appeared of a new German translation of the 'Divina Commedia' of Dante, by Wilhelm Kriger, with illustrations by Gustave Doré, and a preface by the well-known Dantologist, Dr. Karl Witte.

HERR F. KREYSIG's 'Lectures on Contemporary German Romances' have been published. They were originally delivered at Cassel and Cologne, and the subject is treated under the different heads of historical novels, of novels relating to phases of contemporary life, and of novels treating of social life.

THE first part of the twelfth volume of the 'Archivio Storico Italiano,' begun by G. P. Vieusseux, and continued by the Royal Deputation of the History of the Country, contains, amongst other remarkable papers, an unpub-

lished letter of Charles the Fifth to Cardinal Giovanni Salviati, with an introduction by B. Morsolin; an Appendix to the Notes on the State Inquisitors of Venice, containing documents relative to the attempt to assassinate Paolo Sarpi; 'On the Ancient Relations between Venice and Ravenna,' with notes on the origin and early history of these two cities; 'The Last Years of Bona di Savoia, Duchess of Milan,' illustrated by unpublished documents, by Gaudenzio Claretta, gives new information on the adventures which befell the daughter of Duke Ludovico of Savoy, the sister of Amadeus the Ninth, and the wife of Galeazzo Maria Sforza, Duke of Milan; 'The Poets of the Maremma Sennese,' an account of Siena, founded on unpublished documents, by Luciano Banchi; 'The Life of Domenico Cirillo,' by Mariano d'Ayala; a very interesting Supplement to the Bibliographical Notes of works published in Germany on the history of Italy, by Alfred Reumont; and a learned Report on the 'Manuscripts of Arborea,' by Theodor Mommsen, translated from the Proceedings of the Berlin Academy of Sciences.

THE last number of the *Nuova Antologia* contains an article on 'The Origin of Islam,' by the late eminent historian Michele Amari, in which he reviews the recent works of A. Sprenger, W. Mair, and Syed Ahmed Khan Bahadur; and an interesting paper on the 'Vicende della Guerra tra Francia e Germania,' by Major Cesare Corsi, with three excellent maps of Sedan, Metz, and the scene of operations between the Rhine and the Marne.

A MR. HEMANS, who is attracting attention in America by his articles on European politics in the *North American Review*, is, so say the American papers, a son of the poetess.

MR. FIELDS has retired from the firm of Messrs. Ticknor & Fields, the well-known American publishers. He is the editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, and will henceforward, we understand, devote himself almost exclusively to literature. The firm with which he has been connected for nearly forty years, was begun by the late Messrs. Allen & Ticknor, who, in 1832, purchased the business of Messrs. Carter & Hendee: it has undergone several changes of name, and is now styled J. R. Osgood & Co.

SCIENCE

Handy Book of Cottage Hospitals. By Horace Swete, M.D. (Hamilton, Adams & Co.)

IN this little book Dr. Swete's aim is to describe the management of a cottage hospital, and especially to show at what a small expense it is possible to start one, and maintain it in useful working order. He, very properly, we think, points out that there is no necessity for a building of any architectural pretensions; but that such a cottage as a well-to-do working man or small farmer might occupy may with but little alteration be fitted for the purpose.

Dr. Swete shows himself an enthusiastic advocate for such hospitals, but is in danger sometimes by his very enthusiasm of weakening the cause for which he is a champion; we may instance his remarks on the Hospital and Nursing Institution at Great Bookham; with regard to this he says, "Although numerous intended cottage hospitals have been strangled

at birth by opposition, this is the only case I have found in which a hospital once started has been put down, and the animus against it must indeed be strong, when the rules are framed so as to prevent the institution, which has risen from the ashes of the defunct hospital, ever again reverting to its original use." Now the portion of the rule quoted is simply to the effect that only such patients shall be admitted to the institution as (on the testimony of a medical man) are unable to receive the necessary attendance or nursing at home,—in other words, precisely those patients for whose assistance Dr. Swete himself so strongly advocates the foundation of cottage hospitals. It is the more surprising that he should thus express himself, as he is in favour of the plan of having attached to the hospital an itinerant nurse to attend upon patients at their own homes. We cannot help thinking that a more complete account of this change of plan at Great Bookham might have been usefully given. In many districts assistance to the sick at their own homes would be found much more useful than their removal to the hospital.

Dr. Swete points out the value of the cottage hospital, not only to the sick poor, but also to the neighbouring medical men. We agree fully with what he says on this subject, but should be inclined to attach less importance than he does to the use of the cottage in the treatment of cases requiring important surgical operations; such cases, we still think, would be best referred to the county infirmary, where all requisite appliances would be found. As a place for the immediate treatment of accidents, the operations after which are usually of a simple character, the cottage hospital would, of course, be invaluable. The statement that statistics prove that a patient after operation has a far better chance in the little hospital than in the city infirmary, is not quite to be depended upon: it is true that Sir J. Simpson showed that after certain operations the mortality was three times as great in the wards of large metropolitan hospitals as in private rural practice, but it has also been shown that there is no difference in the mortality among country patients, whether operated upon in metropolitan hospitals or at their own houses.

The main part of the book is, as indicated by the title, occupied by very useful descriptions of the requisites in the furnishing of a cottage hospital, hints as to the site and building itself, and suggestions as to rules for admission of patients, &c. In all this Dr. Swete's advice may be safely followed, and on one point only do we feel it necessary to remark:—we are told that at Wrington the back kitchen can be shut off from the hospital, and is approached by a separate doorway, so that on the occasion of a death or post-mortem examination it is used as a mortuary chamber; and on page 62 he says the post-mortem room may be used as, and known by the name of, the wash-house. However rarely a dead-house might have to be used, we think that a separate room should always be provided.

The plan suggested on page 65 does not seem quite satisfactory; it is said to be for six beds, but with the allowance of space approved on page 39 there would be room for at least ten, exclusive of those that might be placed in the special wards. Moreover, in building a new hospital it would scarcely be necessary to make the nurse's room the same size as the wards,

and it would not be the best arrangement to make it the only means of access to the operating-room; the surgery, being little more than three feet wide, would be inconveniently narrow for a fireplace as marked, and the same may be said of the special ward; the plan on page 44 also makes the fireplace in the special ward within eighteen inches of the foot of the bed, which, on account of the position of the two doors, would have to be so placed that there would be a space only about nine inches wide on each side, rendering access to the patient exceedingly awkward. In any plan for a new hospital we should be glad to see a special room set apart as a bath-room.

Dr. Swete, however, does not profess to tell us how to build hospitals, but rather how good ordinary cottages may be and have been converted into very useful little hospitals. The first essentials of a good hospital are simply those of a good house; and the promoters of a village hospital will be likely to find it best to begin by following the example so well set at Cranleigh and Wroughton. The hospital at the latter place is a cottagerented for 10*l.*, the cost of furnishing was less than 100*l.*, and the annual expenditure for five beds has not exceeded 115*l.*

The economy of a cottage hospital lies in its being situated just where it is needed and is sufficient; but it may be open to question whether its expenditure would be found to contrast favourably with larger hospitals in every point. We find, from the tables given by Dr. Swete, that the average number of patients in fourteen of the smaller cottage hospitals has not exceeded twenty-four, the total number of beds being seventy-two. This implies, on the average, the attendance of fourteen nurses on twenty-four patients; a number unnecessarily large, even if all the cases were of more than ordinary severity.

In the chapter relating to the officers of the cottage hospital, Dr. Swete says that it is a matter of considerable doubt whether a chaplain is necessary in so small an institution; his own opinion being that such an officer is not a necessity. We think that there need be no doubt at all upon this point,—that he is not only not a necessity, but likely to be (at least, in many localities) a frequent source of annoyance to the patients. We should be glad to see in all hospitals perfect freedom for each patient to consult whatever religious adviser he might prefer. In a large hospital, the appointment of a chaplain need not interfere at all with this freedom, and would generally be convenient. Of the most important officer of the hospital, the nurse, it is said, "On the whole, the most useful person to act as a nurse in a cottage hospital will be found to be a homely motherly woman of the neighbourhood. She should, if time permits, be sent for a few months to a good county hospital, where, if she is quick to learn, she will pick up a great deal of useful information." Care, however, should be taken to ensure that time should permit of this visit to the county hospital, or of some equivalent training; and it is not less important that the nurse should be quick to learn. This implies general intelligence and quick observation, which, coupled with kindly feeling, are qualities we should look for in a woman who is to become a good nurse.

The founders of a cottage hospital would find among the most important questions that they would have to consider those relating to

the payments by patients and the treatment of the sick as out-patients. At nearly all the existing cottage hospitals there is some payment made by the patients; and in most cases the sum received in this way amounts to about the fifth part of the cost of the maintenance of the hospital. This plan of a weekly payment from the patients appears to have worked well; but, as Dr. Swete says, the amount of the payment is not always easily decided. He finds, practically, 6*d.* a day to be most suited to the patient's means; but that some patients will be able and willing to pay 5*s.*, or even 8*s.* a week. The amount, he says, when fixed, should be paid weekly and in advance; but we should have been glad to have heard some suggestions as to how it is to be fixed. It does not seem desirable that this should be left so indefinite that a sort of bargain should have to be made in each particular case, especially if the arrangement is left to the medical officer, as Dr. Swete seems to imply has been the case at Wroughton.

Dr. Swete pronounces against the attachment of a dispensary to the cottage hospital. Two of his arguments are curious: "In a small hospital, where there is a dispensary attached, with the working of which I am conversant, every out-patient received is a direct loss of 7*d.* to the institution, and this, where the number of patients is considerable, amounts to no small item in the year." Again, "In country practice, the doctor may be miles away at the time he should see the out-patients; and the poor people, who may have come from considerable distances, may be waiting hour after hour for him." If the object of the above small hospital be to treat out-patients as well as in-patients, how can the former be a loss to it rather than the latter? If the country doctor cannot be sure of regularity in attending to see the out-patients at the times appointed, he has, of course, no right to undertake the duty; but that is no argument against the addition of the dispensary, properly provided for. Nor do we understand why, if, for convenience, a dispensary be attached to the cottage hospital, the funds should be kept separate from it; this would seem a quite unnecessary complication, without any conceivable advantage, and, practically, would probably be found almost impossible to carry out completely. That there may not generally be the same necessity for the dispensary that there is for the cottage hospital, may be admitted; but in some neighbourhoods the combination of the two would be found very convenient, while in many the dispensary might be found to be of the greater importance and utility.

In the chapter which contains descriptions of the various existing cottage hospitals, several are included which cannot properly be classed under this head; and it would, we think, have added to the value of the book if, instead of short and incomplete accounts of all the existing cottage hospitals, a more full account of some one had been given—a somewhat more detailed history of work at Wroughton, for instance, with some record of the patients that have been under treatment, would, we doubt not, have been interesting.

The 'Handy-Book' is nicely 'got up'; several views of cottage hospitals are well given, but the ground-plans are not sufficiently carefully drawn; and it would be difficult to say what limb was intended in one of the cuts on p. 101.

We notice that Dr. Swete seems inclined to introduce the word "convalescing" with the same meaning that should be attached to the ordinary word "convalescent." His experience of nurses may be such as to render quite natural his injunction to the nurse, on page 107, not to "loose her temper," but the expression "loose confidence," which also occurs, is, we presume, due to the printer.

Much good has, doubtless, been already effected by the cottage hospital movement, and much more, probably, will be done; but we doubt whether the National Association, which is suggested for their promotion, would be found to be of any very great advantage. What has been done of late years in cottage hospitals may be regarded as a very much more efficient and convenient way of giving that neighbourly help in sickness which seems to be almost universal in English villages: we should think it probable that local effort would amply suffice to start and maintain a cottage hospital in any district where it may be needed, when once its need is recognized, and the ease with which it is supplied is understood. To those pioneers who have shown the way, a full acknowledgment of their services is due. We have been told how efficient a small hospital may be made in a building not specially erected for the purpose; and for a home for convalescents, there is still less necessity, we believe, for a new and specially planned building. Many schemes for such homes appear to be either frustrated or maimed by the uncontrollable hankering after bricks and mortar evinced by their promoters: if it be possible to obtain a well-situated country house, well built, with good rooms and offices, and with a well-grown garden, it would, we believe, generally be preferable, and nearly always much more economical, than a new building for this purpose. We shall be interested to hear the views of Dr. Swete on this subject in his forthcoming work on *Homes for Convalescents*.

A Digest of Facts relating to the Treatment and Utilization of Sewage. By W. H. Corfield, M.D. Prepared for the Committee of the British Association. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE time allotted to the meeting of the British Association is so short, when compared with the amount of work which has to be gone through, that researches of great value often receive but scanty attention. The self-division of this Parliament of Science into sections, a common-sense procedure which might, with advantage, be imitated by other Parliaments, (if their members had any special aptitude for the different subjects on which they legislate,) is the only method by which the details of scientific procedure can receive consideration; and, notwithstanding this division of labour, many valuable papers are "crowded out," and many other articles hurried over. The labourers in the various parts of the great field of science are thus compelled to address the public by the more leisurely service of the pen. In cases where, as in the work before us, a special service has been entrusted to a competent writer, the sanction of the Association gives the volume an unusual advantage in coming before the world.

"The British Association Committee (for 1869-1870) on the Treatment and Utilization

of Sewage," of which Mr. Corfield was a member, "having resolved that it was desirable that a digest of all matters relating to the above subject should be prepared," this volume is the result. The writer has attacked his important, though unsavoury, theme with method and with patience. He commences by drawing a line of demarcation between the "treatment," or removal and deodorization, and the "utilization," or application to the purposes of agricultural industry, of the subject of his researches. Unfortunately for us all, both these points demand our care; and the main difficulty that underlies the whole theory consists in the fact that the two requisites are to some extent opposed to each other. The best "treatment" is somewhat hostile to utilization. The most effective "utilization" lies open to various sanitary and æsthetic objections. But Mr. Corfield says much to aid us in obtaining a proper resultant from these divergent forces. He brings the matter fully and clearly before his readers. As a physician, he is naturally most impressed by the importance of the question of "treatment." But he leans to the hope of a corresponding "utilization" with a natural and evident bias which we shall be only too happy to find to be thoroughly trustworthy.

We shall better fulfil our duty to the great majority of our readers by referring those of them who take special interest in the subject to Mr. Corfield's lucid details, than by presenting them with an abstract of the work.

The ashes and the smoke, which are produced from the organic furnaces that keep up the action of animal life, have a positive chemical value. But, on the other hand, their negative properties, as destructive of health, of purity, and of delicacy both of sense and of sentiment, are so much more active, that the requirements of civilization have been unable to attend the slow march of chemical discovery. And as the value of these proceeds of combustion is estimated at the lowest at 6s. 8d. per head of the population per annum, and at the highest at not more than three times that sum, it is clear that no very large margin is offered on which to work. The laboratory of Nature removes the refuse of the vital fire by the intermixture with the solid ingredients of from fourteen to sixteen times their weight of water. Of these ingredients, from one-fifth to one-third are mechanically suspended in the water, the remainder being held chemically in solution; and it is in the dissolved elements, especially the ammonia and phosphoric acid, that nearly the whole value of the refuse consists. These elements are thus, naturally, dissolved in about fifty times their own weight of water, under which condition, in the ordinary procedure of the farmer, they are applied to the purposes of agriculture. But, for the sake of rapid and secret removal from our cities and towns, this fluid is usually diluted with more than a hundred times its bulk of water. Even in this condition, with proper care, it may be successfully applied to agriculture; but then we have the bad habit of turning a more than equal amount of rainfall into our sewers, at irregular intervals; and thus in every possible way we complicate a very serious problem.

Mr. Corfield brings clearly forward the ample evidence that exists, to the effect that it is only by filtering the effluent sewage through the earth itself that the dissolved and sus-

pended substances which are the food of vegetable, and the poison of animal, life, can be kept out of our rivers, and applied to the production of crops. Soil goes for much. On light, porous, and gravelly soil, and even on the blown sand that forms dunes on some of our coasts, magnificent crops may be grown by the application of sewage. Clay land is more difficult of treatment, but, with proper drainage and disturbance of the soil, has been made perfectly to answer. One main requisite appears to be, to have a sufficient area over which to distribute the fluid. In wet seasons this requisite is of signal importance. In dry seasons, like the past summer, when in many parts of the country no hay has been produced in any but irrigated meadows, sewage-watered farms may be made "fertile oases dispersed only too sparingly throughout a desert of parched vegetation."

Not only rye-grass, the most rapidly repaying crop, but cereals, garden roots, fruit bushes, hops, grapes, and, in short, no less than thirty-eight different vegetables, have been made to flourish on these "filter farms." The results obtained, estimated in £. s. d., are most alluring. From 30l. to 35l. per acre per annum, in milk, at 8d. per gallon, is quoted as obtained in one instance. As we write, Mr. Mechi publishes results of his own experience of equal magnitude. The subject is one of primary importance, sanitary, æsthetic, and economical, and Mr. Corfield's work is entitled to rank as a standard authority, no less than as a convenient hand-book, on all matters relating to sewage.

SOCIETIES.

GEOLOGICAL.—Dec. 21.—J. Prestwich, Esq., President, in the chair.—Messrs. V. D. Colchester, H. J. Heighton, T. Hawksley, F. Rutley, I. Roberts, R. G. Symes, and D. Pidgeon, were elected Fellows. The following communications were read:—"On Lower Tertiary Deposits recently exposed at Portsmouth," by Mr. C. J. A. Meyer,—"Note on some new Crustaceans from the Lower Eocene of Portsmouth, collected by Mr. C. J. A. Meyer," by Mr. H. Woodward,—"On the Chalk of the Cliffs from Seaford to Eastbourne, Sussex,"—and "On the Chalk of the Southern Part of Dorset and Devon," both by Mr. W. Whitaker.

ASIATIC.—Jan. 2.—C. H. Horne, Esq., in the chair.—Prof. J. Pickford and Major H. H. Godwin Austen were elected Resident Members.—An account was read of the Tiwa, or funeral feast, of the Dyaks, translated from the Dutch of Capt. Ullmann, by Sir John Bowring. The Garantong, a set of four or five copper bells, or basins, is hung up at the front of the house, the largest of which is struck violently from the moment the death-struggle begins until the dying person has drawn his last breath. As soon as this has taken place, a shot is fired, and the death-knell begins, which continues day and night until the corpse is buried. The coffin is scooped out of the trunk of a tree by the nearest male blood-relations, and is so narrow that the corpse has to be pressed into it, as else they think another member of the family would soon die to fill any vacant space. The eyes are covered with silver coins, and as much property as possible is accumulated on the dead man, to display his wealth and add to his authority in the City of Spirits. Well-to-do Dyaks are conveyed to their family burial-place accompanied by Blians or priestesses. Under the coffin is placed a vessel with rice, another with drink-water; tobacco and siri are also deposited for the soul, which wanders about until the rites of the Tiwa are performed. Poor Dyaks are buried without any ceremony, and as the relatives cannot pay the expenses of the

funeral rites, they endeavour to move the Tempon Telon,—the divinity who passes judgment on the souls of the dead,—to take pity on the departed, to help him over hell, and smuggle him into the City of Souls. One of the principal features of the Tiwa formerly were, and in many places still are, the human sacrifices. Where the Dutch Government has authority no human sacrifices can be offered; but sometimes buffaloes or swine are cruelly killed instead, with the blood of which the High Priestess paints the forehead, breast and arms of the head of the family. On the second day the coffin is brought, amidst the funeral music of the Garantong, to the place where the Tiwa is performed, when the Keeper of Souls, a Dyak priest, generally half-drunk, delivers his magic speech, in which he represents the soul to be embarked in a vessel, to sail, thanks to his, the priest's, efforts, past the gates of hell to the land of spirits. The day closes with eating and drinking, which forms also the principal business of the two following days. On the fifth and sixth days is the women's festival, when a number of females of any age, generally amounting to between 150 and 200, indulge in every sort of excess.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL.—Jan. 3.—Dr. Charnock, V.P., in the chair.—Capt. C. C. Poole was elected a Fellow, and Prof. C. Luigi Calvi was elected a Corresponding Member.—Mr. J. Wilkinson exhibited and described human remains and works of Art found in an Anglo-Saxon cemetery near Barrington, Cambridgeshire.—Dr. R. King read a paper 'On the Manx of the Isle of Man.'—A paper by Dr. Beddoe was read, 'On the Anthropology of Lancashire.'—Messrs. F. G. H. Price and J. Kaines were appointed Auditors for the past year.—At a Meeting of the Council it was resolved, "That, considering the notice of the Ethnological Society relative to a General Meeting on the 10th inst., three Members of the Council of this Society be appointed to negotiate with the President of the Ethnological Society when he has received the powers proposed to be conferred upon him at that meeting."

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- MON. Architects & Geographical, 8.—'The Gibraltar Current, Gulf Stream, and General Oceanic Circulation,' Dr. W. B. Carpenter.
- TUES. Photographic, 8.—'Pre-historic Remains in Brittany,' Lieut. S. P. Oliver: 'Stone Implements from Queen Charlotte's Island,' Dr. Hooker: 'Cairn near Cefn, St. Asaph,' Rev. D. R. Thomas and Mr. T. M. Hughes.
- Engineers, 8.—'Account of Floating Docks, especially Cartagena and Ferrol,' Mr. G. B. Renne.
- WED. Geological, 8.—'Older Metamorphic Rocks and Granite of Banffshire,' Mr. T. F. Jamieson: 'Connection of Volcanic Action with Changes of Level,' Mr. J. J. Murphy: 'Geology of Neighbourhood of Malaga,' Don M. de Orueña.
- Microscopical, 8.—'Anatomy of *Ascaris lumbricoides*,' Mr. B. T. Lowrie: 'Colloid Silica in preparing Crystals for the Polaroscope,' Mr. Slack.
- Archaeological Association, 8.—'The James of Fairfield,' Mr. H. F. Holt.
- THURS. Royal Academy, 8.—'Painting,' Mr. C. W. Cope.
- Mathematical, 8.—'Systems of Tangents to Plane Cubic and Quartic Curves,' Mr. Walker: 'Order and Singularities of the Parallel of an Algebraical Curve,' Mr. Roberts.
- Royal, 8.
- Antiquaries, 8.—'Election of Fellows.
- FRI. Astronomical, 8.

FINE ARTS

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Burlington House.—The EXHIBITION OF PICTURES OF THE OLD MASTERS, associated with the Works of Deceased Masters of the British School, is NOW OPEN.—Admission (from 9 a.m. till dusk), One Shilling; Catalogue, Sixpence; Season Tickets, not transferable, Five Shillings.

JOHN FRESKOTT KNIGHT, R.A., Sec.

The SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The NINTH ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES by the MEMBERS is NOW OPEN, 5, Pall Mall East. Ten till Five.—Admission, One Shilling. Gas.

ALFRED D. FEIPPE, Secretary.

EXHIBITION OF WATER-COLOUR PAINTINGS at the New British Institution, 39, Old Bond Street, also including the WORKS by ROYAL ARTISTS from the War Relief Exhibition, is NOW OPEN. Gas at dusk.

T. J. GULLICK, Hon. Sec.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—The WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES is NOW OPEN at the Gallery, 53, Pall Mall, daily, from 9 till 6.—Admission, 1s; Catalogue, 6d.

JAMES FAHEY, Sec.

GUSTAVE DORÉ.—DORÉ GALLERY, 25, New Bond Street.—EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, including 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Monastery,' 'Triumph of Christianity,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' at the New Gallery.—OPEN from Ten till Six. Gas at dusk.—Admission, 1s.

A Dominican Artist: a Sketch of the Life of the Rev. Père Besson, of the Order of St. Dominic. (Rivingtons.)

PÈRE BESSON was a monk and an artist, whose model in life was avowedly Fra Angelico; it may be that our readers think such a person would be an anachronism in these days, and that even the Dominican Order would not suffice to sustain an earnest and loving man against forces and inducements which would compel departure from the rule of the mediæval model. This would be felt to be the case, although we all willingly admit the exalted and exquisitely pure nature of the seraphic monk of San Marco. It is certain that the nineteenth century is out of harmony with such a life as that proposed for himself by Père Besson: he was too open-hearted, too enthusiastic, too deeply impressed by ideas of his duties to his fellows to find it tolerable, even had it been possible for him to remain and paint.

Those endless cloisters and eternal aisles

With the same series, Virgin, Babe and Saint,—as he might have done four centuries ago. In truth, Père Besson was a gentle enthusiast, whom circumstances in the first case made an artist, whose temperament and sentiments reflected those ascribed to Fra Angelico more felicitously than any other model of mind and life;—but, in the first case he seems to have been, unlike his type, not an artist born, but a man of exquisite sentiment, who found in painting a mode of expressing himself. An enthusiast and a man of genuine grace and tact, he was rather fitted to deal with men than pictures. Accordingly, we find him setting off in the prime of life on a mission to Mosul, where was a certain Dominican outpost, in contact with Nestorians, Turks, Chaldeans, and the like, who seem to have been too apt to turn from uncertain friends to certain enemies; we find him travelling with a firman in which, although his medical knowledge is admitted to have been of the crudest order, he was described as an "eminent physician." Doubtless "of souls" was the intended addition to this title, but not such was the meaning given to it, and expected to be given to it by those to whom it was addressed. Conceive Fra Angelico sailing so near the wind of untruth as this! conceive him going to Mosul at all! conceive him leaving his cloister to settle the disputes of the "French Provinces," in the Order of which both he and Besson were members! These things the lately deceased monk and painter did, and did them doubtlessly with all his heart and with considerable success; but in doing them he deserted his model, and practically admitted what his biographer and other friends seem unable to recognize, that any other course would have been wrong and unwise for him to follow.

Charles-Jean-Baptiste Besson, friend of Lacordaire, and, among others known to us, of M. Cartier, who wrote a pious life of Fiesole, was born in 1816, near Besançon, of a Royalist family, which the Revolution and other troubles had ruined; nursed by a most loving and lovable mother, he went to Paris and studied in the grand school of Delaroche; he associated with many of those enthusiasts who, in the house of M. Buchez, in the Rue Chabannais, professed a noble sort of Christian Socialism, which was not without its effect in exalting some of the phases of political and social action in that and our own days. Very early

in life he found satisfaction for his earnestness in contemplating the purer and more religious works of art which were produced before the times of Michael Angelo and Raphael, and particularly admiring S. Memmi, Angelico, and others, he turned from the art of Buonarroti and Sanzio with no great regret. This was in Italy, where he was when Lacordaire received, at Rome, the habit of that Order of which he soon became so eminent a member. This act of his friend affected Besson deeply, while the praises of Overbeck, which were liberally bestowed, made him more than ever earnest in cultivating that pious form of Art which suited his temperament. Shortly after, with the consent of, and notwithstanding the tenderness of his love for, his mother, Besson entered the Dominican Order. All pretence at a likeness to Fra Angelico ceased, for he gave up painting, and in course of time became Prior of Nancy, whence he was recalled to Rome. With a view to the reformation of his Order, he settled at S. Sabina, renewed his friendship with Overbeck, volunteered as a missionary to the East, where, although he did not speak a word of the language, he was appointed to Mosul, in which place, it is said, he effected wonders in peace-making, and, considering his ignorance of science, in medicine. Again recalled to Rome, he was shortly after sent to France as peace-maker, and succeeded in appeasing many troubles. Volunteering a second time for the East, he returned and died of typhus fever at Mar-Yacoub, one of the seats of his Order, near Mosul, in May, 1861.

Whatever a reader may think of Père Besson's profession as a monk, no one will doubt his goodness; no one can fail of profit who will patiently read his life, as here written by a friend, whose sole defect is in being slightly unctuous.

MR. PHILIP HARDWICK, R.A.

THE Royal Academy has lost another eminent, and for many years very valuable, member in this architect, who died on the 28th ult., aged seventy-nine. Till last year, death had for some time spared the Academy; and an unusually large proportion of artists who had approached or passed the ordinary term of life remained on the roll of Academicians. 1870 was unusually fatal in this respect. MacIise, MacDowell and Hardwick are heavy losses for one year, especially when it cannot be said that the list of Associates has been greatly strengthened during the same period, or that the choice of artists for the upper grade of membership has been, on the whole, satisfactory. Within the twelve-month, Messrs. Ansdell, Wells and Frost have been promoted, and Mr. Vicat Cole elected an Associate. The last deceased member was born in London, and was the son of the architect, a pupil of Sir W. Chambers, who built Marylebone Church, and Christ Church in that parish. He began to study architecture in his father's office at an early age, and gave great attention to what may be called the business part of his profession, for which he was noted so long as he took part in the management of Royal Academy affairs, while he acted, from 1850 to 1861, as Treasurer and Trustee of the body. He became a student in the Academy in 1808; in 1816 he obtained the first of a long series of appointments of a profitable kind, on being chosen as architect to Bethlehem and Bridewell Hospitals, to the former of which he made considerable additions in a period of more than twenty years, during which he held these offices. In 1818-19 he made a tour in France and Italy; in 1825 he designed the buildings for

the St. Katherine's Dock Company; four years later he designed the new Hall of the Goldsmiths' Company of London. In 1828 he became a Fellow of the Royal Society; he was elected A.R.A. in 1839, and R.A. in 1841, with J. J. Chalon and D. Roberts. The most important works of this architect were the Greek-Doric gateway leading to the Euston Square Terminus, and the new Hall and Library in Lincoln's Inn; the latter, although executed so long ago as 1832, quite in the beginning of the Gothic revival, remains one of the most commendable examples of its class. Mr. P. C. Hardwick, son of our subject, is reported to have assisted his father in executing this work, if not in designing it. The gold medal of the Institute of Architects was awarded to Hardwick, likewise the gold medal, second class, at the Paris Exposition in 1855. He designed many private residences in this country; among them Babraham, near Cambridge, for Mr. H. J. Adeane; and he made alterations in the Bishop's Palace at Hereford. Probably no member of the Academy did so little in aid of the institution by exhibiting works at the annual gatherings as Hardwick, who contributed nothing after 1844. He became an Honorary Retired Academician in 1868.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

[Second Notice.]

THE general summary of the attractions of the current exhibition of pictures by old masters and deceased British artists, which we gave last week, was the fruit of a rapid survey of the whole, and, of course, subject to revision and correction when opportunities were, as they now are, available. Having thus hastily indicated such works as were deserving of primary attention, either on account of their proper merits, or their great fame, we now propose a deliberate examination of the gathering, beginning with the pictures in Gallery III, and grouping the works of each master as they are presented in order, and diverging when it may seem desirable to do so.

Northcote's single picture here, *A Man with a Hawk* (No. 100), looks like a portrait of himself in most unexpected circumstances; the lean, sour visage of Reynolds's pupil in old age recalled to Haydon's mind an image of "a rat who had seen a cat," and is remote enough from what one looks for in a falconer's face; the painting is masculine and strong, but antipathetic, and rather crude.—Del Piombo's two works fail to place that grave master of noble portraiture in so impressive a light as is his due; one would have been thankful for something like Mr. Baring's magnificent *Holy Family*, which so worthily represented him and, comparatively small as it was, seemed, to us at least, of much more precious quality than the admired 'Raising of Lazarus' in the National Gallery. Michael Angelo's greatest pupil, probably the last of the real old masters, himself a man of vast powers in design, and in pathos most pathetic, indeed a painter hardly inferior to any of his order, is tolerably rather than happily presented by Lord Lansdowne's *Portrait of a Senator* (101), which probably should rather be that of a scientific or theologic professor: a pallid, study-worn man, with hollow cheeks, large eyes that seem deepened in expressiveness by the habit of thought, and an ivory-like skin, has a table before him holding books and a celestial globe. This work, as is frequently the case with those of Del Piombo, seems to have been darkened greatly by time, and is over-brown in its tints; also, like Earl Dudley's portrait of *A Nun* (386), attributed to this artist, is void of that peculiar bronze-green tint in the half-tones which we are apt to associate with Sebastiano's flesh-painting. The latter is rather blackish in this respect, and far from being so lucid and rich in tone as the former is. On account of these differences, as well as others which refer to the sentiment and general treatment of the so-called "Nun," we doubt if it is rightly ascribed to the painter in question, although it is in some respects an estimable work of third or fourth-rate merit.

On the whole, we think Rubens, notwithstanding that the coarsely re-painted *Portrait of Thomas*

Howard, Earl of Arundel and Surrey (158) is here, is better represented now than before. Among the most interesting of his portraits is that striking *Marchese Spinola* (103), brought, like the last, from Warwick Castle, but, unlike so many pictures in that stronghold, intact, and as it left the painter's hands; it is very bright and clear, with greater refinement in handling than one looks for from Rubens, and in some qualities suggests Vandyck's work before he went to Italy. The treatment of the face is admirable; the handling of the dress of Spanish grey embroidered with gold, and the rich chasings of the corset are worth study on account of the remarkable dexterity employed upon them. The face has a quaint, tiger-like look, with so much of the cat in it as was apt to the countenance of the famous captor of Ostend after a siege of nearly forty months, the extraordinarily wily man who deceived Henry the Fourth by telling him the truth about his military plans. The head is a little on one side, and has an odd look, with its eyebrows lifted like arches and moustaches which seem to twitch with a forced smile that moves the angles of the mouth and swells the cheeks. He has a red scarf on one arm, and a baton in the hand of the other. The picture must have been painted soon after the taking of Breda, in 1625, when Spinola, journeying with the Infanta Isabella, visited Rubens at Antwerp. There exist other portraits of Spinola by Rubens, or attributed to him. Quite another mood of the Flemish painter's mind than that which prevails here, appears in the work which is next in turn on these walls. With his pupil *Snyders* he painted, as it is said, *A Woman and Child, with Groups of Fruit* (109), although we must own that the portion of this big picture which is attributed to the teacher looks more like the production of Vandyck in a careless fit, than the strong, though often coarse, work of Rubens. Beyond a doubt *Snyders* painted the fruit and vegetables, which, exuberant in brush-power and masterpieces of handling, enrich and give value to an otherwise rather uninteresting example; the great blue Delft dish with its heaped peaches, is a study for painters of still life. Although the large and famous *Wolf Hunt* (110), from Lord Ashburton's collection, bears Rubens's name alone, we dare say a considerable part of it is due to younger hands than his, though it was produced no later in his life than 1612, a date, however, which is not supported by the execution of the picture. The history of this work is known: it was painted for the Spanish general Legranes, from whom it descended to Count Altemera at Madrid; in 1824 it was bought by Mr. Smith, the picture-dealer, in Paris, for 80,000 francs. Rubens appears on the grey horse; his first wife, Elizabeth Brants, rides the brown horse. To the painter the execution of the furs of the hunted animals and the hides of the dogs and horses are eminently attractive. Some think the wolves are due to *Snyders*, as indeed the solid handling of their skins attests. The landscape is by *Wildens*. Sir E. Landseer may have taken a lesson from these skins: notice the bold way employed of altering the outline of the left forepaw of the wolf in front; the foreshortening of this limb is, however, hardly correct, but the drawing of the fellow limb, the modelling of the head and ears of the creature, and the entire design of the two wolves, are admirable. Another noteworthy part of the picture is the horse which Rubens rides; indeed, many parts of the work are beyond praise, and most worthy of the artist's strongest moods. Of subject pictures here, attributed to Rubens, the Marquis of Westminster's *Dismissal of Hagay* (55), apart from its preposterous treatment in design as "a domestic scene," suggests Vandyck rather than his master, and is not of great account, ascribe it to whom we will. Mr. Cowper-Temple's *Portrait Head of the Duke of Alva* (71), styled a Rubens, is nothing of the kind; nor is it a likeness of the Duke of Alva, but a spirited but rather coarse copy of a head, probably from a picture by Rubens, or an original study by a very inferior hand. A real Rubens, of the finest, noblest quality, a gem of painting and priceless in power and sentiment, is *Earl Dudley's*

Landscape—Moonlight (350), which formerly belonged to Rogers. This work is so very dirty that the stars, which the artist placed in rilievo on the sky, are dark instead of white projections of pigment, and much of the foreground is lost. It is, however, such a grand piece of art, that its untouched state adds pleasure to our examination by placing genuineness above suspicion. Fine as his atmospheric effects generally are, Rubens rarely surpassed this landscape in painting air. The space of the level distance is vast; wonderful is the richness of the tones of the mid-distance, which is partly occupied by water flowing under a bank loaded with herbage, so that the stream is chequered to a very solemn effect by reflections and darker shadows on its dimmed but shining surface; on our right is a darkened group of dark trees; on the nearer bank of the water a horse crops the grass; above all, the sky is filled with light from a magnificent moon at full, which lights the clouds like day. There is not an inch of this picture but is worthy of most careful study.

More fortunately represented than Rubens is a greater master—the magician of chiaroscuro—*Rembrandt*. In portraiture this is strikingly the case. The *Portrait* (114), from Bath House, represents an old but still robust man, seated at ease in a chair, half turned to look at us, just as he was placed in the studio light, wearing a black dress and wide white ruff about his neck: his hair is crisp, cut short, and very grey. The modelling of the flesh in this picture is unusually solid, but not opaque, for nothing could be clearer; although *Rembrandt* rarely used so much pigment in flesh-painting as appears here. The *Earl of Warwick's* so-called *Portrait of a Burgomaster* (77)—the three-quarter figure of a standard-bearer to a corps of civic guards—erect, in full front, banner-staff in hand, and having the flag drooping behind him, is a noble work; a masterpiece of portraiture; as full of character as it can possibly be, and painted so broadly that, while all parts are finished, the whole is as large in style as a portrait by Michael Angelo might be, and as grave, but more genial than any of Sebastiano del Piombo's works of this class. One is so struck by the individuality of those portraits by *Rembrandt*, that a question is sure to rise in the minds of observers, who was this sweet-faced old man with the long and loose curls falling over his shoulders from below his hat?—who was the bluff-looking original of the *Portrait* we have just described? The former was doubtless a merchant, certainly a civic dignitary,—the latter almost as surely a traveller and a man of action; one might say a sea-commander, except that the lean and delicate hand with the ring on its finger, which clasps the knob of the chair, is obviously familiar with a glove. If a merchant, he travelled by land, so that the sun and wind made his skin dark and rough under the grizzly moustache and short stubble-like beard and hair he permits to grow so scantily. The *Portrait of a Man with a Hawk* (126), when compared with the above-mentioned picture, illustrates the diversity of *Rembrandt's* power more effectively than all the examples of Rubens, with his pupils to boot, which are gathered here, do that of the Flemish master. Of course the Dutchman surpassed the gorgeous *Fleming* in every noble quality of mind and art. The man with the hawk is a young, fair, and fair-haired Dutch gentleman, with a falcon fluttering on his outstretched arm; the drawing of the face is delightful to artistic eyes; so is the perfect harmony of the whole—colour, tone, chiaroscuro and expression. This is one of the most enjoyable of the master's portraits, and capable of yielding as great a reward to the earnest student of its beauties as any of his works. This picture is dated 1643. The next picture evidently represents the wife of the falcon-bearer; the features have something of that similarity which often occurs in the looks of men and their wives. This is a work of *Rembrandt's* very finest time: a lady in a rich dress, standing, and holding a fan; the whole so minutely painted that every jewel on her arms and bust has its proper little speck of reflected light truthfully placed

and shaped; the pearls as they drop on the string of her bracelet are, in this respect, studies of the most precious quality. It is impossible to conceive anything more exquisite than the drawing of the face, hands, draperies and gems, nor anything softer, more delicate, or broader than the modelling, more solid than the handling, more ineffably modest and sound than the rendering of the expression. This was painted, we think, somewhat later than the fellow picture; it very nearly approaches to the technical quality and perfected splendour of the artist's art which appears in 'The Woman taken in Adultery,' now in the National Gallery, which is dated 1644; so that the portrait of the lady with the fan may have been produced immediately between that of her husband and the great masterpiece. Finally, of this picture notice the marvellous painting of the costume on the breast of the lady, and the neighbouring parts of the picture, especially the hand and the fan it holds. *Earl Dudley's Christ Preaching* (345), rather 'John preaching in the Wilderness,' is a marvel of composition and rich drawing, painted in monochrome, with a little blue. This picture is well known, and belonged to Cardinal Fesch. Without colour, it is as apt an illustration of the master's genius, including some of its shortcomings (those which compel us to place him in the second rank of designers), as we could invoke our readers' admiration for. The *Portrait of a Saint* (367), belonging to *Earl Dudley*, does not look like the work of *Rembrandt*, although the Catalogue gives his name to it.

Among many pictures here, which are certainly not the work of the painters whose names they bear, are, 1, Mr. Wynn Ellis's *Italy* (40), which is preposterously ascribed to *Turner*, that ascription being one of the grossest mistakes of which *Turner* has been the victim; 2, the same owner's "Müller," *The Slave Market* (12), will hardly pass muster before critics. The *Earl of Dudley's Portrait of Francis the First* (296) is worthless. The *Portrait of a Young Man* (277), belonging to the Duke of Sutherland, is very doubtfully ascribed to *Parmigiano*. The *Earl of Warwick's "Raphael's" Portrait of Joanna of Naples* (280) is a common copy. Another picture, even less wisely ascribed to *Raphael* than the last, is the Marquis of Westminster's *Holy Family* (286), a work of the stamp of the other so-called and similar "Raphael" at South Kensington. Of the same order, slightly superior to these, is *Earl Dudley's* poor copy of the *Madonna del Cardolino* (363); of this also there is a very inferior version in the picture-gallery at South Kensington.

Fine-Art Gossip.

THE Royal Academicians elected Mr. Frost as a new member from among the Associates of the body, on Friday night of last week. This gentleman was elected A.R.A. in November, 1846. Mr. Street stood next in the order for election, but at some distance behind the fortunate new R.A.

WE stated last week that the Royal Academicians did not purpose to repeat, for a time at least, the exhibition of Old Master pictures on loan. We are now informed that nothing has been positively decided on in this respect, and that, probably, next year may bring us a third gathering like the present. If so, so much the better.

A CORRESPONDENT, well known on account of his acquirements with regard to the subject in question, writes as follows: "Will you allow me to call the attention of those interested to the long delay which has attended the completion of the large and well-executed Catalogue of the Works of *Raphael*, which has been prepared, and exists in the form of uncorrected proofs? This work was executed by desire of the Prince Consort, and embraces all the collection of works by the master which the Prince had caused to be formed; it includes all prints and drawings after and by *Raphael*, together with photographs from the same: many of the latter were taken expressly for this work: the whole is the most perfect catalogue of

the artist's productions which has been compiled. It was prepared by Herr C. Ruland, and completely set in type fully eighteen months before the death of Mr. B. B. Woodward, late Queen's Librarian at Windsor. At Herr Ruland's suggestion, that as the text is in English, it should, before publication, be revised by an Englishman, the task of revision was entrusted to Mr. Woodward. The proofs remain untouched. The value of such a Catalogue needs no comment: if supplemented by a complete index it would be of the utmost service to students.

MR. A. L. CHETWODE, the Honorary Secretary of the Exhibition for the relief of the distressed French peasantry, writes to us: "With reference to the paragraph in your impression of the 31st ult., that artists of repute would willingly have sent contributions of pictures, to be sold for the benefit of the distressed peasantry of France, had they been aware of the formation of the Exhibition, I am directed to express the regret of my Committee that the terms of the notices which appeared for many weeks previous to the opening of the Exhibition, in the daily papers, in which artists were earnestly solicited to contribute pictures or other works of Art, should have been misunderstood by them. To this appeal, however, many artists have already most generously responded; and I have to state that such contributions are still thankfully received, and will effectually aid in making this Exhibition still more worthy of the great need which it represents."—Our Correspondent does not seem to be aware of the fact that artists do not read advertisements.

THE death of M. P. Van Schendel, the popular painter of moonlight and misty scenes, fish-markets, and the like, is announced as having taken place on the 20th ult., the artist being sixty-four years of age. His pictures afford curious means for illustrating the divergence between the opinions of artists and technical critics and mere picture-fanciers;—by the former two these works are considered as almost worthless,—to the latter they afford exquisite enjoyment, of a sort.

MR. MARKS has just completed for the Water-Colour Exhibition, at the Dudley Gallery, a drawing which he entitles 'Thoughts of Christmas.' The scene is laid in a beech-wood, to which a swineherd has brought his charge to feed on the mast, &c. A portly white-froked friar passing by pauses on his way, to contemplate the group of well-filled porkers, and smiles unctuously as visions of future brawn and chine, well-cured ham and rich sausage float through his brain.

WE regret the destruction of one of the quaintest views in Europe—that from the window of the Hotel Dusauz, at Moscow. On a former occasion a part of the wall of the Kitai gorod had been hidden by buildings, but now a breach is being made in it to allow of the erection of a red-brick store, and one of the towers has disappeared.

MUSIC

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter Hall.—Conductor, Sir MICHAEL COSTA.—FRIDAY, January 30, Mendelssohn's ELIJAH. Subscription Concert. Principal Vocalists: Miss Edith Wynne, Miss Julia Eiton; Mr. Nordblom and Mr. Santley. Tickets, 3s., 2s., and 1s. 6d., now ready, at 4, Exeter Hall.

SIGNOR MERCADANTE.

THE composer of the 'Briganti,' the 'Vestale,' and the 'Giuramento' is no more. He died on the 17th of December last, in Naples, in his 74th year. Of his sixty operas the three works cited above may perhaps live, but, at all events, detached pieces from his various productions will always find a place in concert programmes. He was born in Altamura, province of Bari (the Adriatic), and at twelve years of age entered the Royal College of Music of St. Sebastian, in Naples, where he became a pupil of Zingarelli. Mercadante's early career was that of an instrumentalist. He played the flute and violin, composed many pieces for those instruments, and was for some years *chef-d'atque* of the Conservatorium. The story that he was driven from that institution because Zingarelli

caught him in the act of scoring Mozart's quartets, is told by Fétis, but is denied by M. Félix Clément. His first operatic production was a Cantata for the Fondo, and his first opera, 'L'Apoteosi d'Ercole,' in Naples. This was in 1818, and was followed by two more operas for Naples and one for Rome in 1820. In 1821 he wrote 'Maria Stuarda' for Bologna; but his marked success was in his seventh opera, 'Elisa e Claudio,' for Milan, in 1821, which has travelled far and wide. It was thought that he would then prove a formidable rival to Rossini; but Mercadante had two competitors in Donizetti and Bellini, who extinguished him in all countries except his own. He had a succession of reverses in Vienna, Rome, Turin and Mantua, until his 'Donna Caritea,' which had a great run, was heard in Venice in 1826. He went to Madrid in 1827 and 1828, and wrote operas for that capital and for Cadiz. In 1831 he returned to Italy, and his 'Zaira' at Naples was well received. His grand triumph for Italy was in the production of 'I Briganti,' but, strange to state, this opera had but a doubtful success, when it was brought out in Paris in March, 1836, although it was sustained by that immortal quartet of singers, the late Giulia Grisi, Rubini, Lablache and Tamburini, of whom the last-mentioned artist is the only survivor. Mercadante was appointed Chapellmaster of the Cathedral of Novara in 1833, being the successor of Generali. 'Il Giuramento,' the masterpiece of the former, in which Nourrit sang, was represented in Milan in 1837 for the first time. In 1839 he wrote the 'Due Illustri Rivali' for Venice. In that year he lost his sight. In 1840 he was appointed Director of the Conservatorium of Naples. In 1842 'La Vestale' was first performed in Paris, but this work has been more appreciated in Germany than in France or Italy. He was named Foreign Associate of the Institute in Paris in 1856. His last operas were 'Il Bravo,' 'Il Vascello di Gama,' 'Leonora,' 'Gli Orazi ed i Curazi,' 'Il Proscritto,' 'Il Regente,' 'Il Signore in Viaggio,' 'La Solitaria delle Asturie,' 'Statira' (1852), 'La Violetta,' 'Il Pelagio,' &c. He has composed much music for the Church: masses, motets, &c. He had the besetting sin of too many composers, fecundity; and he was, consequently, too prolific and too precipitate in his productions. He could score effectively when he gave himself time; he wrote well for the voices; his melodious faculty was evident enough: but he had no faith in the future of his compositions, and the composer without confidence in himself lacks the essential element of genius. He wrote to live, he did not live to write; and hence the extraordinarily unequal quality in his operas, which, if gleaned from, condensed and reformed, might be turned into some half-dozen really grand works. His 'Giuramento,' which is based on Victor Hugo's 'Angelo, the Tyrant of Padua,' was given in Paris in 1858, and has been tried at the Royal Italian Opera in its palmy days, but failed to attract. The cast included Madame Grisi, Madame Didiée, Signor Mario, Signor Lucchesi and Signor Debassini. The once famous baritone-basso had nearly lost his voice, and as he sustained the principal part, Count Manfredi, the finest numbers of the score were ineffective. Besides this, Signor Mario, who never was known to be perfect on a first representation, had not mastered his music in the character of Viscordo. But the last has not been heard of Mercadante in this country if ever there should be a restoration of fine ensembles in grand opera—a consummation devoutly to be wished,—whether it assume the shape of a National or of an Italian Opera House, or both—which is really the desideratum.

OPERA-BUFFA AT THE LYCEUM.

ROSSINI'S 'Italiana in Algieri,' produced in Naples in 1813, and his 'Turco in Italia,' in Milan, in 1814, were the precursors of his 'Barbiere' and 'Cenerentola,' first performed in Rome in 1816. In the 'Italiana,' Rossini established his own school of composition for the opera-buffa, in which he effected as great a revolution as he did in the style of the opera-seria. In this country, the 'Barber'

reigns supreme. 'Cenerentola' re-appears occasionally, to introduce a contralto who can execute roudades brilliantly; but the opera has no real hold here. At the old King's Theatre (Her Majesty's) 'Il Turco' had some forty years since a stronger favour with the public than the 'Italiana.' The last-mentioned work was done at Covent Garden in 1847, with Alboni as *Isabella*, Mdle. Angelina *Elvira*, Signor Salvi *Lindoro*, Signor Marini *Mustapha*, Signor Polonini *Haly*, and Signor Rovere *Taddeo*; but it had no permanent success. In 1852 it was revived at Her Majesty's, with Mdle. Angri, Signori Calzolari, Belletti, Mercuriali, and Ferranti, but was still more unfortunate. It is possible the large size of the two houses had something to do with the respective failures. There is much recitative in the 'Italiana'; and as it is accompanied only with the old violoncello and contrabasso method of sustaining the voices, the effect is lost in an extensive arena. In the concert-room there are pieces which will always live, such as the tender tenor air, 'Languir per una bella,' the comic duet, 'Se inclinassi,' between Lindoro and Mustapha, the duet, 'Ai capricci,' between Isabella and Taddeo, the irresistible trio, 'Pappataci' (which has been a mine of wealth to subsequent composers of comic operas); but, above all, there is the sublime scena, the patriotic invocation to Italy, the 'Pensa alla patria,' in which Rossini, with prophetic inspiration, seemed to have predicted the future triumph of the Italia Una. The cantabile of this air and its bravura coda have called into requisition the noble powers of a Pasta, of an Alboni, and of a Viardot. The Lyceum cast on the opening-night, the 2nd inst., if judged by reminiscences, was very indifferent, but despite the inadequacy of some of the principals, it was really refreshing to listen again to the Rossinian melodies, to the picturesque, although unlearned orchestration. Signor Tito Mattei, the conductor, has at his command a thoroughly efficient band, quite large enough for the size of the house, and a very fair chorus; but he must subdue the ardour of both players and chorists, and in the general rendering of the score more light and shade will be required; the management of a Rossinian *crescendo* requires greater tact than was exhibited last Monday. For Mdle. Bedetti, who was announced in the original prospectus as *Isabella*, a Mdle. Veralli was substituted. She is a good artiste, who doubtless once had a more resonant mezzo-soprano than she now possesses; but she can sing her scales neatly, and if she had been a better actress her success would be more sure. She got on better in the 'Cruda sorte' (which is from the opera of 'Zelmira') than in the 'Pensa alla patria,' in the singing of which a lesson from Madame Viardot would be invaluable to her. The *Elvira* of Mdle. Brusa, the *Lindoro* of Signor Fabbri, and the *Mustapha* of Signor Rocco, may be dismissed at once, as being below mediocrity. Not so the *Taddeo* of Signor Borella, a piece of comic acting (taken from the Neapolitan point of view of buffos) that is really admirable. Signor Borella is superior both to Signor Rovere and Signor Ciampi, if not so unctuous as the inimitable Signor Ronconi or the Jupiter Tonans of bassi, the late Lablache. Signor Borella secured the *encore* for the 'Pappataci,' which fairly roused the auditory.

On Tuesday evening 'L'Elisir d'Amore' was given, but not with the promised Mdle. Moro, of whom favourable accounts have been heard, but with Mdle. Calisto as the *Adina*, who sings better than she acts, but is not singer enough to efface the recollection of the many representatives who have been listened to in London. She is not equal to Miss Rose Hersee, who played the character on the memorable single-night season of 1869 of the previous opera-buffa speculation. The 'Elisir d'Amore' was first introduced into this country in 1838 at the Lyceum, where Mr. Mitchell's enterprise was carried on. Signor Catone's *Nemorino* will not be easily forgotten even by those who have heard Signor Mario in the part. Signor Fabbri did not remove the unfavourable impression caused by his *Lindoro*, and Signor Ristori, the new *Dulcamara*, although a clever

actor, has not the humorous impulse of the late Lablache, nor the charlatan effrontery of Signor Ronconi's delineation. Signor Torelli's *Belcore* again will not stand comparison with the gallant bearing of Signor Tamburini, nor with the vocal volatility of Signor Belletti. As yet not one of the newcomers commands the attention of the regular Opera frequenters; whether they are sufficiently strong to satisfy the present race of amateurs, who have no past to influence their judgment, remains to be seen. As the case stands, an English troupe could easily be secured which would do better than the artists who have yet been heard. This is a pity, because the revival of opera-buffa within a small arena would really, if well done, meet with adequate support from the musical public.

The first novelty will be the new opera, 'Ali Baba,' by Signor Bottesini, in which a new tenor, Signor Piccoli, as *Nadir*, will be heard; the other parts by Mdle. Calisto, Signori Torolli, Rocco, and Borella.

LONDON BALLAD CONCERTS.

THE new songs claiming notice at the opening concert of the fifth season, on the 4th inst., in St. James's Hall, were the able setting of Longfellow's words, 'The Christmas Bells,' by Mr. J. L. Hatton. It was so expressively sung by Mr. Santley as to ensure a re-demand, the allusion to the strife of nations exciting no ordinary sensation. Mr. Sullivan's ballad, 'A life that lives for you,' given by the same singer, was also encored. Madame Patey was allotted Mr. Cowen's new air, 'The Two Roses,' and Miss Arabella Smythe had Mr. Frederic Clay's song, 'She wandered down the mountain side,' and an air by Henriette, 'Where'er thou art is home to me.' Mr. Santley sang Molloy's new song, 'The Wandering Jew,' and Miss Edith Wynne the air by the late 'Claribel,' 'The Answer to the Dream,' as also Madame Sainton-Dolby's ballad, 'Marjorie's Almanack.' Mrs. Phillips's 'Cushra Mushnee' was rendered by Miss Arabella Smythe, and Fräulein Drasil was charged with the singing of Mr. C. T. Heap's song, 'Ellen Dale.' It will be gathered that the ballad market is not at a discount with so many competitors in the field. If there be no one of the pieces cited above that is calculated for enduring popularity, there is much merit in many of them. The chief defects are the prevalence of maudlin sentiment and laboured accompaniments. The ease and naturalness of the old English ballad are wanting in the drawing-room compositions of the day. The attachment to old airs was shown in the rapturous reception of 'Draw the Sword, Scotland,' sung by Mr. Cummings, which was encored, and to the 'Kathleen Mavourneen,' which has the late Mr. Crouch's name attached thereto, but the theme of which is as old as the hills. The vocal selections were relieved by pianoforte pieces, performed by Madame Arabella Goddard, and composed by Herr Thalberg and Mr. Benedict.

Musical Gossip.

THE second performance of 'The Messiah,' by the Sacred Harmonic Society, on the 30th ult., was again affected so far as regards principals by the severity of the weather. Madame Viardot had not recovered from her cold, but her singing was still marked with the high intelligence and devotional feeling which render her readings so infinitely more acceptable than those emanating from vocalists with far superior voices. Mr. Vernon Rigby could not appear, and his substitute was Mr. Kerr Gedge, who confirmed the previous favourable impression in his execution of the tenor part: so long as he does not force his voice, he is safe. The re-appearance of Mr. Santley was most welcome; he is one of the finest interpreters of music of the sacred school. In oratorio he shines supremely; and although he had a cold, the precision of his style was as marked as ever. No artist can equal him in the execution of florid passages; in the difficult triplets in the song 'Why do the nations,' he is perfect—the only bass singer who ever has fairly and neatly conquered them. Sir Michael Costa had

of course his choral and orchestral forces well in hand.

Two artists, who have been absent a long time from London, will appear at the Monday Popular Concerts on the 9th, namely, Madame Szarvady, known here as Fräulein Wilhelmina Claus, the pianiste, and Signor Sivori, the violinist.

THE acoustic qualities of the Royal Albert Hall having been tested by the voice, trial has been made with the band of the 1st Life Guards. The results have been pronounced satisfactory by several musical authorities. The opening of the Hall has been fixed by Her Majesty for Wednesday, the 29th of March; the Queen will inaugurate the ceremonial. The list of the guarantee fund, which the Musical Committee of the Society of Arts is raising, is filling, and will, no doubt, be soon completed, as the profits arising from the proposed concerts in the Royal Albert Hall will be appropriated towards the formation of a National School of Music.

MR. CHORLEY writes, with reference to the announcement in the *Athenæum* as to the new 'Gideon,' preparing by Mr. Cusins—'Is not Mr. Charles Horsley's 'Gideon,' a work produced under circumstances of disaster and haste, worthy of being remembered as an antecedent 'Gideon'? And when we read that there have been no oratorios produced since 'Elijah,' we cannot but recollect Herr Hiller's two oratorios, the second his 'Saul,' given at the Lower Rhenish Festival at Cologne; Herr Reinthaler's 'Jephtha,' Herr Hager's 'John the Baptist,' both produced by Mr. Hullah. It is not the chance of splendid execution which makes the work, however much the splendid execution may give it a value to its audience. There was no more adroit or fortunate in his time as a contributor to festivals than Neukomm. Where is he now?'

At the last performance of the season of the Teatro Nazionale, for some reason or other the actors refused to go through the whole performance, and the *Nazione* states that a most disgraceful scene occurred. Amid frightful howling and screaming, the chairs and benches were thrown on to the stage, the footlights were smashed, and some persons were, it is said, seriously injured.

MDLLE. CHRISTINE NILSSON has been giving concerts in Rochester, Toronto, &c., which are reported by the American journals, in much the same inflated style as that used during the tour of Madame Jenny Lind-Goldschmidt, the singing being described as superhuman, and the writers striving to prove that the advents of such artists are angelic visitations.

ACCORDING to the latest advices, Mdle. Carlotta Patti had made a successful expedition in Chile, and was on her way to Peru, where she was anxiously expected. — Her more famous sister, Adelina (La Marquise de Caux) is at present singing at St. Petersburg.

DRAMA

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.

DURING two nights last week the French company, recently performing at the Opéra Comique, appeared with Mdle. Déjazet at the small theatre in St. George's Hall. 'Gentil-Bernard,' the five-act vaudeville of MM. Clairville and Dumanoir, was revived for this occasion, Mdle. Déjazet appearing as the boy-hero; a part she first sustained, in 1846, at the Variétés, and repeated eight years later, with undiminished effect, at the theatre to which she gave her name. No play dumber than 'Gentil-Bernard' has ever extended to five acts. What does duty in it for a plot simply consists of five conjugations of the verb 'to love.' Gentil-Bernard makes love first to a 'bourgeoise'; then to a grisette; afterwards to a lady of position; subsequently to a shepherdess, and finally to an actress. Each scene of wooing occupies an act, and the whole makes a play. The ability of Mdle. Déjazet to present such a character has been so often manifested of

late that there is no place for further criticism. A favourable reception was awarded the entire representation, especial approbation being bestowed upon the songs and dances with which Mdle. Déjazet is liberally provided.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE new Court Theatre is now rapidly approaching completion, and will shortly open for dramatic entertainments.

A NEW burlesque, by Mr. R. Reece, is, we are told, in preparation at the Olympic.

ON Tuesday next Mr. Phelps will appear at the Queen's Theatre as Shylock, which will be played for a fortnight, on alternate nights with 'Richelieu.' Mr. and Mrs. Rousby will then re-appear in 'Twixt Axe and Crown,' previously to playing in Mr. Taylor's new drama, 'Jeanne d'Arc.'

A 'new and original' comedietta, by Miss Schiff, author of 'The Twin Sisters,' is in preparation at the Globe Theatre.

M. HENRI NERTANN, of the Gymnase Theatre, Paris, will make his first appearance on the English stage on Monday week, when he will play one of the parts in Mr. Robertson's comedy of 'War,' to be then produced.

THE dramatic world of Florence is on the *qui vive* at the announcement by Signora Pezzana-Gualtieri of the discovery of a new unpublished comedy by Carlo Goldoni, the father of Italian Comedy, which is to be shortly performed at the Teatro delle Logge. It would be a great boon to have a really good Italian comedy, even if it should turn out *not* to be by Goldoni.

THE *Rivista Europea* announces the death of two Italian dramatists, Signor Giovanni Sabbatini, and Signor Filippo De Boni. The former especially applied himself to the hard task of resuscitating the national Italian drama: his 'Bianca Capello' is the best of the many dramatic pieces founded on the life of the beautiful Venetian. Signor Sabbatini published in 1864 two volumes of dramas and of historical reminiscences of the contemporary Italian Drama, which did not become popular. Amongst his most successful productions were 'La Coscienza Pubblica' and 'La tratta degli Spazzacamini.' Signor Filippo De Boni is chiefly known by three historical dramas written at an early age, 'Domenico Veneziano,' 'Andrea del Castagno,' and 'Ghino di Tacco.' Afterwards he became well known as a writer on philosophical subjects, and his preface to the translation of Renan's 'Vie de Jésus,' is a good instance of his literary powers.

THE old moons are held, by good nursery authority, to be cut up for stars, but stars in a thinly-peopled colony have to be supplied by another process. Pietermaritzburg and the Diamond Diggings are now supplied by a complete company, consisting of Mr. David Miranda and Madame Miranda-Hirst. For them, Mr. W. M. Dick, of the city of Maritzburg, who is now 'famous as a prophet,' has written 'The Challenger; or, Love's Masquerade,' in which Madame takes four characters and her husband five. At the Diggings, the work is spoken of as of the highest merit.

FROM New York we learn that Mr. Walter Montgomery has played at Niblo's Garden Theatre in 'Othello,' 'The Lady of Lyons,' and 'Romeo and Juliet.' He was in each instance supported by Mrs. Scott Siddons. Mr. Albery's comedy of 'The Coquettes' holds possession of Wallack's Theatre.

AT the Circus Renz, in Berlin, one of the entertainments has consisted of the passage on a tight-rope, above the heads of the audience, of a woman on a velocipede. During a repetition of this performance, the actress, a Mdle. Rost, fell and received severe injuries. England is, it appears, not the only country in which the powers of a censor, when exercised at all, are exercised in the wrong direction.

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